

# Jordan Times

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 جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية والراي

## Yemeni police surround tribal chief's home

SANAA (AFP) — Yemeni police forces on Monday surrounded the home in Sanaa of a powerful tribal chief suspected of sheltering a clan member who has carried out several attacks in the capital. Some 300 members of the Khawlan tribe had been holed up inside the house since dozens of police backed by armoured vehicles surrounded it late Sunday. Clan chief Mohammad ibn Naji Al Ghader was believed to be harbouring tribesman Khaled Al Qiri who is suspected of setting off several explosions in the capital in the past two months. The tribe is close to the Bakil clan, the most powerful in Yemen, and several leading Yemeni personalities have been trying to mediate to prevent any bloodshed.

## New Israeli air force chief appointed

TEL AVIV (AP) — A new commander took over Monday at the Israel air force, at a time when the long-range missile threatens the predominance of air power as the mainstay of Israel's deterrent strategy. Maj. Gen. Eitan Ben-Elihu, 52, replaced Maj. Gen. Herzl Bodinger, who is retiring from the service. Born and educated in Jerusalem, Ben-Elihu qualified as a fighter pilot in 1964 and fought in the 1967 and 1973 Mideast wars and the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He has flown hundreds of sorties and has vast combat experience. In 1970, during fighting with Egypt and Syria, his plane was hit by ground fire and Ben-Elihu had to bail out, but was rescued unhurt. Ben Ami began his career in journalism at the armed forces radio station, with the rank of private. As army spokesman he holds the rank of brigadier general.

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## U.S. opposes Iraqi food distribution plan Ekeus: Iraq has 6-16 long-range missiles

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States does not accept an Iraqi plan for distributing food and medicine under an "oil-for-food" scheme agreed with the United Nations last month, the spokesman of the U.S. mission to the United Nations said on Monday.

"We think it is unacceptable. It demonstrates that Iraq is not serious about moving forward to implement this resolution," spokesman James Rubin said, referring to resolution 986 of April 1995, on which the oil-for-food plan is based.

Mr. Rubin said the United States had two objections to the Iraqi plan, submitted to the United Nations last week.

"We have two major problems. Iraq is again trying to turn a humanitarian exception into some partial lifting of sanctions, which we will not permit. And it again refuses to accept that it is the United Nations, not

Iraq, which is in control of distribution of goods to the north," he said, referring to the Kurd-inhabited north of Iraq which has not been under Baghdad's control since the end of the Gulf war.

Under the oil-for-food plan, concluded by Iraq and the United Nations May 20, Iraq will be allowed to sell \$2 billion worth of oil over six months to buy food and other humanitarian supplies to help alleviate the effect of sanctions imposed on Iraq since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

But before the scheme can go into effect, the United Nations must approve a plan for distributing the food and medicines bought with the proceeds from the sale of oil. Also the Security Council's Iraq sanctions committee has yet to complete work on regulations covering the sale of oil and the purchase of humanitarian supplies.

Meanwhile in Kuwait the

U.N. disarmament chief, Rolf Ekeus, said Monday that Iraq has between six and 16 long-range missiles which could be armed with chemical or bacteriological warheads, the official news agency KUNA said.

The head of the United Nations Special Commission on Disarming Iraq (UNSCOM) added that Iraq no longer possessed nuclear weapons, the agency added.

Mr. Ekeus on Monday held talks with Kuwaiti Emir Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to discuss the process of dismantling Iraq's military arsenal.

Mr. Ekeus arrived late Saturday in Kuwait. He also met Monday with Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, KUNA said.

He informed Kuwaiti leaders on "the results of the U.N. missions in Iraq as well as Baghdad's attitude towards UNSCOM."

The visit comes after Mr.

Ekeus last week won an agreement with Iraqi authorities to give his weapons inspectors unrestricted and unconditional access to all military sites suspected of harbouring banned arms material.

The accord ended a standoff which emerged in June when Baghdad prevented inspectors from visiting five Republican Guards bases.

However, Mr. Ekeus said Sunday that his arms inspectors have failed to make headway in Iraq because of its stubborn silence on its advanced weapons programmes.

"Iraq still constitutes a threat to the region," he said, quoted by KUNA, but adding that UNSCOM was determined to continue its work.

Meanwhile, a U.N. team of germ warfare experts on Monday began another week-long mission in Baghdad to check Iraq's compliance with disarmament resolutions, a U.N. official said.

The team from the UNSCOM on disarming Iraq, headed by American Dick Spertzel, will try to "monitor Iraq's respect for its commitments to the United Nations," the official said.

It is the first UNSCOM mission here since Iraq pledged to cooperate with the commission and guarantee unrestricted access to its military sites following a standoff with U.N. inspectors in June.

Baghdad had prevented inspectors from visiting five Republican Guards bases suspected of containing banned weapons material.

Mr. Ekeus said Sunday that his arms inspectors have failed to make headway in Iraq because of its stubborn silence on its advanced weapons programmes.

## King, Assad converse

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad reviewed Jordanian-Syrian relations and the general situation in the Middle East region in a telephone conversation Monday, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that the two leaders also exchanged views concerning the peace process and its latest developments as well as regional and international issues of common concern to Jordan and Syria.

The telephone conversation followed Sunday's announcement by Prime



Hafez Al Assad

Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti that the Syrian president has sent the King a message that was delivered by the Syrian Charge d'Affaires in Jordan Wahib Jaber.

Mr. Kabariti disclosed the development during a briefing to the Senate over the outcome of the Cairo Arab Summit meeting last week and the King's side

meetings with Arab heads of state including President Assad.

According to Mr. Kabariti, the King reiterated Jordan's absolute support for improving relations with Syria and backing for Damascus' quest to regain its Israeli-occupied Syrian lands and the establishment of a comprehensive settlement on all tracks.

## Syria sees better ties with Erbakan's Turkey

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria on Monday said it hoped relations with neighbouring Turkey would improve with the formation of the new coalition government headed by Turkish Islamist leader Necmettin Erbakan.

Syrian Premier Mahmoud Al Zohbi, meanwhile, wished the Welfare Party leader success in the post and expressed his "confidence that the historic relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will develop and strengthen."

The official Syrian newspaper Tishreen said Damas-

cus was keen to maintain good ties with Ankara to sort out the crisis over sharing water from the Euphrates and accusations that Syria backs separatist rebel Kurds in Turkey.

"After the formation of Turkish government headed by Mr. Erbakan, new hopes have risen of a real relaxation in Turkey's ties with neighbouring countries, especially Syria," the newspaper said in an editorial.

"Syria is really hopeful that this government would work to remove all the factors that led the ties to be cold as they are now," Mohammad Kheir Al Wadi,

the newspaper's director general, said in the editorial.

Mr. Erbakan was appointed Turkey's first Islamist prime minister on June 28 after forming a coalition with the conservative True Path Party, led by former Prime Minister Tansu Ciller. The coalition will face a parliament confidence vote in the next two weeks.

Syria has in the past accused Turkey of cutting down on the flow of water from the Euphrates into Syria with Ankara's massive dams project on the river.

In June tension escalated with each country claiming the other had massed troops

on their shared border.

"Syria is keen to improve ties with Turkish people and to see stability and security prevailing in the whole region..." Tishreen said.

Relations between Ankara and Damascus also recently worsened because of Turkey's military training deal with Israel, signed in February, and the newspaper accused the Jewish state of escalating tensions between Syria and Turkey.

"Israel has exerted big efforts to push Turkey into the circle of struggle in the region to tear the existing ties between this country (Turkey) with its Islamic

and Arab neighbours.. and to help achieve the Israeli supremacy over the Middle East," it said.

Turkey accuses Syria of supporting the fight of the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK), fighting for autonomy or independence in southeast Turkey, and of giving refuge to PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan in Damascus. Syria denied the charges. Mr. Erbakan on Monday condemned a PKK attack that highlighted his dilemma as an Islamist premier trying to steer NATO-member Turkey through the

(Continued on page 7)

## Republicans target Perry over Saudi bomb attack

WASHINGTON (AFP) — President Bill Clinton's political foes pressed demands Monday for heads to roll over the terrorist bombing in Saudi Arabia as debate over possible security lapses gained momentum.

Defence Secretary William Perry came into the line of fire from Republicans in Congress who plan to hold hearings next week to shed light on whether the Pentagon did enough to protect the U.S. troops. Nineteen U.S. servicemen died on June 25 when a truck bomb exploded

near a U.S. housing complex at the King Abdul Aziz Air Base at Khobar, Saudi Arabia. It was the second anti-U.S. terrorist bombing in Saudi Arabia in eight months.

"Our first duty is to protect our men and women, and we have not done that adequately," Republican Senator William Cohen, a member of the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees of the U.S. Senate, said Monday.

Mr. Cohen, speaking on CBS television, said it was "premature" to call for Mr. Perry's resignation.

But he added that if information surfaced during the July 9 hearing that there was a threat in Saudi Arabia that warranted additional security measures, "then there would have been a lapse of responsibility and then we can hold people accountable."

The comments from the long-time member of the key committees came after Republican Senator Arlen Specter at the weekend called for a "shake-up" at the Defence Department and questioned whether

(Continued on page 7)

## Netanyahu advisor urges end to closure of territories

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An advisor to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday recommended lifting the four-month-old closure of the Palestinian territories in the interests of national security.

Deputy Gideon Ezra, a former deputy head of the Shin Beth internal security service, told Israel Radio that sealing off the Palestinian territories was not helping security.

"I think that the closure has not achieved its stated goals. In my opinion we have to lift it immediately. The closure is only having a psychological effect."

The presence of our security forces along the demarca-

tion lines is more likely to prevent terrorist attacks than the closure of the territories."

The blockade was imposed in February at the start of a wave of Islamic militant bombings in Israel which killed 58. It has been slightly eased to allow 27,000 Palestinians daily back to work in the Jewish state, but Palestinian officials maintain the continuing closures are causing severe economic hardship.

"I think the arabs in Gaza and the West Bank should have access to their source of income. We have to reorganise the current way of co-existence to ensure the best future for all of us," Mr. Ezra added.

## Palestinian protesters demand release of 6,000 from Israeli jails

AL BIREH, West Bank (AFP) — The families of the some of the 6,000 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails demonstrated here Monday calling for their immediate release in line with the accords struck with Israel.

A total of 200 men, women and children, mainly relatives of prisoners, accused the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) of ignoring the fate of the detainees at a gathering here near Ramallah, north of Jerusalem.

The protesters marched two kilometres to an Israeli checkpoint outside Al Bireh, holding pictures of detainees and placards with slogans such as: "No peace without the freedom of prisoners."

Israel freed around 2,000 prisoners after signing the September 1995 deal to extend autonomy on the West Bank, but has since arrested a similar number.

The PNA, headed by Yasser Arafat, has accused Israel of reneging on its commitments in the accords to release Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

Fatima Muammar, aged nine, whose father Mahmoud was sentenced to life for killing an Israeli soldier, asked at the demonstration: "Why do they not release him now that we have peace?"

"I have not been able to visit my father for the past four months. The authority must call for his release. It is not fair."

Mahmoud's sick wife,

who had come to the protest with Fatima from their home in the village of Batir, near Bethlehem, said her husband "was the only person capable of supporting the family. The 500 shekels given to us each month by the authority does not allow us to make ends meet. The authority must do something."

The families are demanding the PNA put pressure on Israel to meet its commitments under the accords.

"The authority must take on (its responsibilities) as it has agreed a peace accord without all the prisoners being freed," said Halima Khalil, whose husband Mustapha Faraush was

(Continued on page 7)

## Government says any bread price increase will not affect needy; opposition mounts

By Francesca Ciriaci  
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While the government on Monday denied that any final decision has been taken yet regarding the possible hike in the price of bread and that any such hike would ensure that those who deserve subsidy will not be affected, more and more voices are joining the outcries of protesters.

Following Sunday's statements by the Islamic Action Front (IAF), the largest opposition party in the Kingdom, and the National Society for Consumer Protection (NSCP), the Jordanian Communist Party (JCP) and the Jordanian Democratic Women's League (JDWL) stepped in to warn of the con-

sequences of such a move.

"Finally, the government has crossed the line," the JCP wrote in a statement yesterday, "and has announced through its minister of supply that the price of bread will be raised to 250 fils per kilogramme."

Minister of Supply Munir Sobar was quoted by Al Dstour Arabic daily on Sunday as announcing that the price of bread would be raised from the current 85 fils to 250 fils per kilogramme as of July 15.

But Mr. Sobar's quick response, denying that he made any such statement to Al Dstour report, has not stopped the voices of discontent.

Urging the government not to raise bread prices, the IAF

has called on all Jordanians "to refuse and oppose any increase, no matter how minimal, in the current price," and warned the Cabinet "not to cross the line."

"Nobody is talking about measures targeting the poor sectors of the society," Mr. Sobar told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview Monday.

Saying that 30 to 40 per cent of subsidised bread goes to social categories who do not deserve such subsidies, the minister said, "We only think that it is not fair that the 1.2 million tourists and the foreign workers also benefit from the subsidised bread."

State subsidies for bread in 1996 are expected to cost the government JD 150 million and an additional JD 30 mil-

lion and more are spent yearly for other commodities subsidised in the Kingdom, (rice, sugar and powdered milk).

Lifting the state subsidies on bread is one of the measures under consideration by the Cabinet to contain Jordan's budget deficit.

"Subsidies for bread account for 17 per cent of the state budget," Mr. Sobar told the Jordan Times.

He added that studies are currently being conducted, "in order to review all possible alternatives and draft an effective coupon system to compensate low-income citizens."

News agencies reported the minister as mentioning yesterday the option of compensating some 40,000 families rated below the poverty line

of \$ 160 a month with monthly allowances "over and above their wages."

But, notwithstanding the minister's declarations, many observers are sceptical about the Cabinet's "good intentions."

When, two years ago, the government raised the prices of fuel and promised a compensation in the form of a monthly check for the poorest families, the compensation measure was never implemented.

"This unjust decision (of raising bread prices) tops other measures already taken by the government in the past, the last of which are the increases in the prices of other services, such as water and electricity," the JCP said, accusing the government of

aiming at "mercilessly degrading the people's living standards."

To the JCP, which claims that the lifting of subsidies on bread is one of the measures "imposed by international agencies to support monopolies and allow them to run the world's economy," Mr. Sobar answered that "the IMF does not dictate internal policies," but only urged that Jordan contain its budget deficit.

While the NSCP called for a press conference to be held today, a committee calling itself "the Committee for Defending the Citizens' Bread" issued a statement on Sunday presenting a series of actions to protest the government's envisaged new policy, ranging from protest marches, to sit-ins and strikes.

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## Three militants get death over Bangladeshi killings

MANAMA (AFP) — Bahrain's State Security Court on Monday sentenced three Shiite Muslims to death for a firebomb attack on a restaurant that killed seven Bangladeshis, lawyers said.

Four other defendants were jailed for life and a fifth for 15 years for the attack in the Shiite suburb of Sitra south of Manama in March, the lawyers said.

The State Security Court's verdicts cannot be appealed.

The three sentenced to death were: Ali Ahmad Abed Al Usfur, a 31-year-old worker in the agriculture ministry; Yusef Hussein Abdul Baqi, 31, a teacher; and Ahmad Khalil Ibrahim Habib Al Katran, 30, a worker at Bahrain's aluminium company.

Khalil Ibrahim Abdullah Khamis, 21, Qambar Khamis Ali Qambar, 23, Abdullah Ibrahim Abdullah Khamis, 27, all labourers, and Mohammad Ridha Yakub Yusef Al Attar, 23, a fisherman, received life sentences.

An 18-year-old student, Abdul Aziz Hussein Abdul Baqi, was jailed for 15 years.

The eight, all from Sitra, were accused of carrying out the dawn attack on an Asian restaurant on March 14 which killed seven

Bangladeshis as they slept downstairs. But their lawyers said "there is no proof of their guilt." They met Monday to draw up a statement voicing their concern at the verdict.

Bahrain has been rocked since December 1994 by anti-government unrest led by Shiite Muslims demanding the restoration of parliament dissolved in 1975. At least 22 people have died in the violence.

The authorities carried out the first execution in 20 years on March 26 when a 28-year-old Shiite, Issa Ahmad Hassan Qambar, was killed by firing squad for murdering a police sergeant one year earlier.

The execution sparked rioting in Manama and its suburbs.

Since June 61 people have been sentenced by the State Security Court — three to the death penalty and seven to life sentences, including Monday's verdict.

The other 51, all aged between 18 and 30, have been jailed for between one and 15 years for bomb attacks and acts of sabotage and violence.

The Sunni Muslim-led authorities in Manama has accused Iran of being behind the unrest, financing and training a militant group called Hizbollah-Bahrain to bring the government

down. Iran has denied the accusation. Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa told the Iran News on Sunday that Damascus was trying to mediate between Iran and Bahrain to end their "misunderstandings."

**Velled women used to smuggle arms in Bahrain**

Meanwhile, Bahrain's foreign minister charged in remarks published Monday that Hizbollah-Bahrain used women to carry arms because they can escape searches.

Mohammed Ibrahim Al Motaweh told the Egyptian daily Al Ahram that "terrorists are using women because of the social immunity they enjoy."

Women had helped the Hizbollah-Bahrain group to "transport arms" used in the unrest in the Gulf archipelago, he added.

The Gulf Arab states strictly apply Islamic tradition where women are banned from unveiling in front of a strange man, which prohibits any searches.

"We thank God that security has succeeded in uncovering their plot," Mr. Motaweh added, saying that some members of the organisation "were still on the run abroad."



Tina Shaw, 21, South African born, finds herself jobless on the street of Jerusalem Sunday, after being sacked as nanny to Prime Minister Netanyahu's children. Her spat with Mr. Netanyahu's wife Sarah embarrassed the Israeli leader elected in May who portrays himself as the Jewish state's first family man prime minister (Reuters photo)

## Netanyahu's children's nanny sacked 'for burning the soup'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The nanny for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's children said Monday she was fired for burning the soup.

The prime minister's office denied that Tina Shaw, 21, was dismissed because of the soup-burning incident, and said she was fired because of her violent outbursts.

The daily Maariv said Sarah Netanyahu fired Tina Shaw, 21, on Sunday without notice after she had been working for the couple

for six months.

"She sacked me without even giving me time to pack my bags," said Ms. Shaw, a recent immigrant from South Africa, who was sitting on the pavement with her belongings scattered around her, the paper said.

Ms. Shaw said Mrs. Netanyahu had got angry when she carelessly burned the soup for four-year-old Yair, and Avner, 18 months.

But the prime minister's office gave a different version of events. A spokesman said: "There have been serious problems of instability

recently in the behaviour of the nurse in the Netanyahu home. For this reason the security services have recommended that she should be distanced from the prime minister's house."

He added the au-pair had "flown into a rage, which started a small fire in the kitchen."

Such revelations about a prime minister's private life are unprecedented in the Israeli media, but Mr. Netanyahu's American-style leadership which contrasts sharply with his predecessors has sparked an

increasing press fascination.

The right-wing leader of the Likud Party has taken every opportunity to be seen in public with his wife and children. In the past he even publicly apologised to Sarah for being unfaithful.

Mr. Netanyahu, Israel's youngest ever premier, is to take his family with him on an official visit next week to Washington and a special programme of events has been drawn up to keep the children amused including a trip to the zoo and the space museum.

## No sign of foreign link to Saudi blast — ambassador

BONN (R) — Investigators have so far found no foreign link to the bombing of a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia that killed 19 U.S. servicemen last week, the Saudi ambassador to Germany said on Monday.

"No, there are not. There are no signs of this as yet," Ambassador Abbas Faig Ghazzawi told reporters when asked if foreign groups might have been behind Tuesday's blast.

He would not discuss the issue further, saying such allegations would only make the investigation more difficult.

Two previously unknown groups, Hizbollah Gulf and Legion of the Martyr Abdullah Al-Huzafi, have claimed responsibility for bombing the military complex in Khobar near Dhahran in eastern Saudi Arabia. Around 400 people were hurt in the attack.

U.S. Secretary of Defence William Perry told reporters in Saudi Arabia on Saturday the latest attack might be linked to one in Riyadh in November at an American training facility.

Saudi Arabia in May beheaded four Saudi men who confessed on state television they were behind last year's blast and were influenced by Islamic groups and Saudi dissidents. They said they had been planning more

attacks.

German security services coordinator Bernd Schmidbauer said last week the BND intelligence agency had information indicating the attack on the Khobar apartment block was the work of opponents of the Saudi government.

He said they may have been helped by former Afghan guerrillas who fought Soviet forces in the 1980s and share Muslim fundamentalists' anti-Western zeal.

**Britain to revamp security**

Britain has launched efforts to revamp security for its troops, diplomats and citizens in Saudi Arabia following the Khobar bombing and anti-British threats, a British source said here Monday.

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, meanwhile, was due to discuss terrorism when after his arrival here Monday night with his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal, officials said.

"We have to look at security because the nature of the threat has changed," according to a British source who asked not to be named.

"It wasn't thought possible they could muster a 5,000-pound bomb."

A truck bomb estimated between 1,350 and 2,250

kilogrammes (3,000 and 5,000 pounds) killed 19 Americans when it exploded next to a U.S. military housing compound at the King Abdul Aziz Air Base in Khobar on Saudi Arabia's eastern coast last Tuesday.

The base is also used by British and French troops but none were hurt in the blast.

The British community has received two threatening letters in the last two months, the source said, adding that he did not know their contents or how seriously they were being taken. Nor did he specify if they were received before or after Tuesday's bombing.

Britain and the United States received threats demanding their forces leave Saudi Arabia before a car bomb blew up a U.S. training mission in Riyadh on Nov. 13, killing five Americans and two Indians.

The source said security is being reviewed for British Royal Air Force personnel at Khobar, and at another major Saudi-allied base at Khamis Mushait, as well as for military advisors and liaison teams.

There are an estimated 30,000 British citizens living in Saudi Arabia, including an undisclosed number of military personnel, professionals, businessmen and their families.

## Egyptian journalist accuses minister of beating

CAIRO (AP) — An opposition journalist who accused the interior minister's sons of corruption was beaten Monday by seven men he said were sent by the government as a warning.

Magdi Hussein, editor of the Islamic-oriented Al Shaab newspaper, said men in two cars and on a motorcycle stopped him, dragged him out of his car then kicked and punched him. They stole the equivalent of \$2,050, but he was not seriously hurt.

An interior ministry spokesman said the attack was under investigation. Interior Minister Hassan Al Afify was "disturbed" by the incident, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

But Mr. Hussein said the men were sent by Mr. Afify "as a warning" not to pursue a campaign against his two sons, who Mr. Hussein accused of misusing their father's authority to get rich.

Last year, Mr. Hussein was sentenced to a year in jail and the equivalent of a \$4,500 fine for publishing a story saying that one of the sons had refused to pay a hotel bill and beat a waiter.

Mr. Hussein appealed and a court gave him a three-year suspended sentence but upheld the fine. Mr. Hussein said the money stolen was to pay off part of that fine.

## U.S. backs Kuwait role, says Iraq still unstable

KUWAIT (R) — America's top soldier in Kuwait said on Monday Washington's commitment to the security of the Gulf state occupied by Iraq in 1990-91 was unshaken by a bombing that killed 19 U.S. servicemen in neighbouring Saudi Arabia.

Brigadier General Stephen Rippe, chief of the U.S. embassy's office of military cooperation, said Iraq continued to be unstable and unpredictable and the U.S. military was helping its Gulf allies improve their readiness in the event of trouble.

Regardless of current events we are fully committed to this region. We will not waver," he said, referring to the bombing.

"The U.S. is committed to the region. We are not going to abandon our coalition partners," he said in an interview.

Gen. Rippe, whose main job is to help prepare Kuwait

to defend itself against any military threat, added the safety of the hundreds of U.S. servicemen and technicians in Kuwait was his top priority and their security was continually assessed.

A truck bomb on June 25 killed 19 U.S. servicemen and wounded 400 people of various nationalities at a military housing complex at Al Khobar in eastern Saudi Arabia in the second attack on Americans in the kingdom in the past year.

Two groups, including one apparently made up of Saudis, have claimed responsibility for the blast but U.S. officials say they do not know whether the statements are genuine.

The blast led to tighter security at all U.S. installations in Kuwait. But officials say they have seen no increase in the level of threat to the 6,000-strong U.S. civilian community or the

several "hundred" troops and military advisers.

"I absolutely don't know (about) and cannot speak about who is behind this in Saudi Arabia," Gen. Rippe said. "I just know that in all of my contacts with American servicemen that are here in Kuwait, we feel nothing but welcome and hospitality (from Kuwaitis)."

"We try to conduct ourselves as dignified guests in their country and respect their culture and their norms. It's a very special relationship that we value highly."

In answer to questions, he said the United States was committed to ensuring Baghdad complied with all U.N. 1991 Gulf war resolutions.

"We are very concerned about what is going on in Iraq and all my superiors tell me we are absolutely committed to making sure that the U.N. resolutions are com-

plied with," he said. "It's a very unpredictable and unstable situation in Iraq."

Reiterating statements by other U.S. officials, he added that if Iraq tried to rebuild its army using partial oil exports planned under an oil-for-food agreement with the United Nations then "we are going to prevent that happening. You have to assume that is a possibility and try and take steps to prevent it."

Gen. Rippe said the "very robust" U.S. presence in the region included a battalion task force and a squadron of A-10 and F-16 warplanes in Kuwait, and an aircraft carrier battle group, an air expeditionary force and a marine amphibious unit.

He said U.S. forces held weekly, monthly and annual training sessions with Kuwaiti forces, who were making outstanding progress in expanding and modernising following the war.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel. 77311-19	
<b>PROGRAMME TWO</b>	
15:00	Iris The Happy Professor
15:30	Tennis Wimbledon '96
19:30	News
<b>Headlines</b>	
19:35	Blossom
20:00	Egypt
20:30	Encounter
20:45	Varieties
21:10	Star Trek
22:00	News In English
22:30	Human Target
23:15	Hawaii 5-0
23:45	My Two Wives
<b>PRAYER TIMES</b>	
03:54	Fair
05:29	(Sunrise) Doha
12:39	Dhuhr
16:20	'Asr
19:50	Maghreb
21:25	'Isha
<b>CHURCHES</b>	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweithel Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terra Sancta Church Tel. 622366	
Anglican Church Tel. 652826	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.	

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

771331	Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
771751	St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
771751	Armenian International Church Tel. 652526
771751	Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
771751	German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 845457
771751	The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
771751	Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
771751	The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295
771751	English-speaking Latin Catholics Parish Tel. 614190
<b>WEATHER</b>	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Min/Max temp.	
Relative hot weather conditions will prevail with temperatures above average and winds north-westerly light to moderate. In Agaba, it will be hot and dusty, winds northerly moderate to active, and seas calm.	
Amman	18/34
Agaba	25/38
Deserts	17/36
Jordan Valley	23/38

Yesterday's high temperatures:	
Amman	34
Agaba	37
Humidity readings:	Amman 38 per cent, Agaba 47 per cent.
<b>USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS</b>	
<b>NIGHT DUTY</b>	
<b>AMMAN:</b>	
Dr. Yousef Rashid	896301
Dr. Khalil Abdo	732920
Dr. Walid Al Masri	675485
Dr. Jum'ah Abu Dhiab	758848
Feridows pharmacy	778336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmeisani pharmacy	637660
Nalrokh pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	847632
<b>IRBID:</b>	
Dr. Ghazi Ta'anneh	250080
Al Quds pharmacy	(—)
<b>ZARQA:</b>	
Dr. Walid Halaseh	982799
Khalifeh pharmacy	985417
<b>EMERGENCIES</b>	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Dept.	661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police 192	621111
637777	
Fire Brigade	617101

Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs	623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-53200
<b>HOSPITALS</b>	
<b>AMMAN:</b>	
Husseini Medical Centre	813813/2
Khalidi Maternity	644281/6

Aldleh Maternity	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	607071
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Muasher Hospital	667279
The Islamic, Abdali	666126/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	771013
Al-Bashir	775111/26
Army, Marka	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery	865199
<b>ZARQA:</b>	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	09983323
Zarqa National Hospital	09900560
Ibn Sina Hospital	09986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital	09990990
<b>IRBID:</b>	
Princess Basma Hospital	02275555
Greek Catholic Hospital	02272275
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital	022747100

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA AIRPORT	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights	
04:30	Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, New Delhi (RJ)
08:00	Damascus (RJ)
08:15	Sanaa (RJ)
09:45	Doha (RJ)
10:15	Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
10:30	Beirut (RJ)
10:50	Bahrain (add) (RJ)
11:45	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
14:05	New York
16:05	Detroit, Amsterdam (add) (RJ)
17:30	London (RJ)
17:40	Frankfurt (RJ)
18:15	Toronto, Amsterdam, Montreal (add) (RJ)
20:00	Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)
21:10	Cairo (RJ)
00:55	Bahrain (add) (RJ)
01:10	Beirut (add) (RJ)
<b>Other Flights</b>	
09:15	Cairo (MS)
14:00	Riyadh (SV)
14:00	Munich, Aleppo (YP)
14:10	Frankfurt (YP)
16:00	Rome (AZ)
16:30	Dubai (EK)
19:35	Amsterdam (KL)
20:20	London (BA)
20:20	Aden (IY)
21:10	Beirut (ME)
21:15	Cairo (MS)
22:00	Tel Aviv (LY)
00:55	Bucharest (RO)
03:00	Kuwait (KL)
<b>Royal Wings (RW) Flights</b>	

DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights	
06:35	Beirut (RJ)
09:30	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10	Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15	Amsterdam, Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
13:00	Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
14:05	London (RJ)
17:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:00	Bahrain (RJ)
21:10	Lamaca (RJ)
21:20	Jeddah (RJ)
21:30	Beirut (add) (RJ)
22:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:30	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
<b>Other Flights</b>	
09:15	London (BA)
10:15	Cairo (MS)
15:10	Frankfurt (YP)
15:30	Riyadh (SV)
15:45	Munich (YP)
17:00	Rome (AZ)
17:30	Dubai (EK)
20:45	Kuwait (KL)
21:20	Aden (IY)
23:00	Tel Aviv (LY)
01:55	Bucharest (RO)
04:00	Amsterdam (KL)
04:00	Beirut, Athens (OA)
08:45	Beirut (ME)
09:15	London (BA)

MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apricot	800/550
Apple	700/500
Banana	600/600
Banana (Mukammar)	520/600
Banana (imported)	380/660
Cabbage	130/80
Carrot	140/90
Cauliflower	350/250
Cucumber (large)	100/250
Cucumber (small)	180/100
Eggplant	200/130
Garlic	650/400
Lemon	770/500
Marrow (large)	150/100
Marrow (small)	230/150
Mulukhiyah	130/80
Onion (dry)	130/80</





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# Home News

## Fire, blasts destroy paint storage facility

Explosions rock neighbouring buildings but no fatalities reported

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A huge fire at a paint storage facility at the Ring Road Monday set off explosions as approximately 800 barrels of raw material used for paints ignited; the blasts caused neighbouring buildings to rock, official reports said.

The strong impact of the explosion caused a hole in the ceiling and some of the burning barrels blasted into the sky, the reports said.

A Civil Defence Department (CDD) official said one of the barrels landed on a small room near the warehouse causing fire to engulf the room, while another barrel, he said, fell on a plot of land causing fire damage to two dunums.

There were no fatalities in the incident which occurred at 10:00 a.m., the CDD official said adding that the "cause of the fire was still being investigated."

"An investigating committee is still studying the scene and until now we are unable to even speculate as to the causes behind the blaze," the CDD official told the Jordan Times.

CDD units brought the fire under control in one hour from the time it broke out.

Meanwhile, CDD frogmen retrieved the body of a 19-year-old man who drowned Sunday while swimming in a water reservoir in the Jordan Valley, according to official reports.

The victim, Issa Amer Nuseirat, was swimming at a farm in the North Shouneh area when the incident occurred, the reports said.

Recent statistics released by the CDD indicated that 34 people were killed in swimming accidents in the first six months of this year.

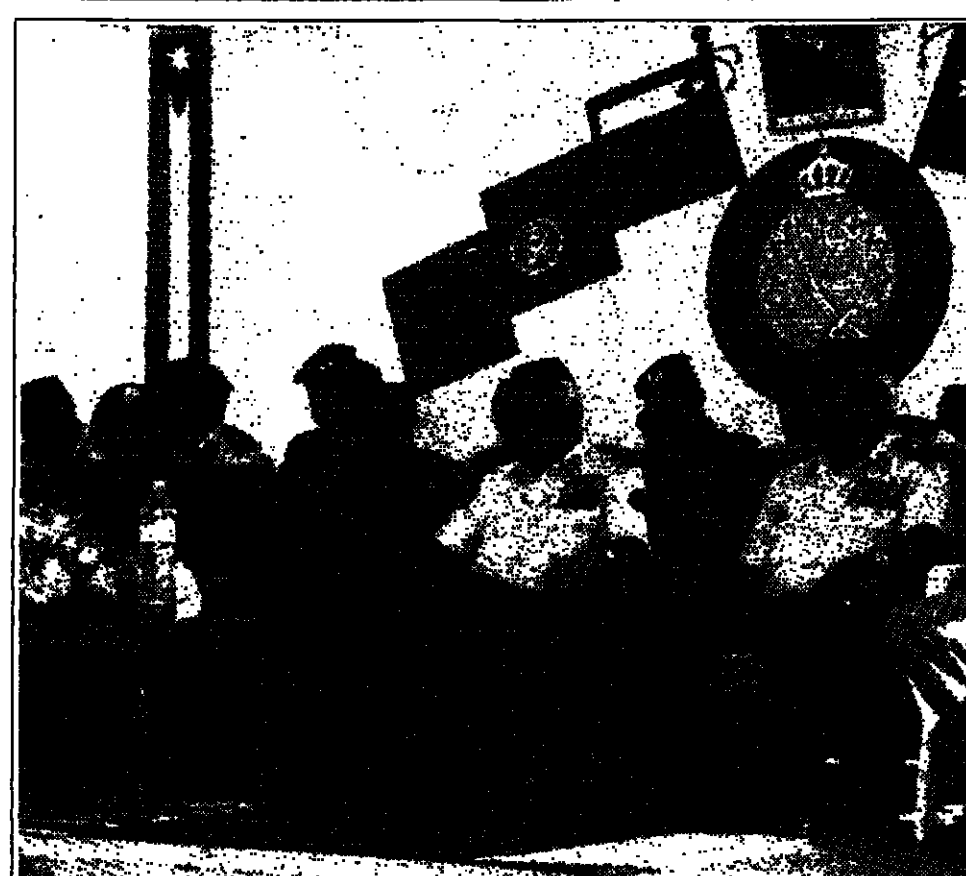
"Most of the victims in these accidents are children and youth," Captain Farid Share' of the CDD told the Jordan Times.

He said the main reasons for such incidents, "which are on the increase", are that most people do not abide by safety regulations or do not know how to swim.

"The last three months witnessed an increase in the number of swimming incidents because of the summer holiday," Capt. Share' said.

According to the CDD official, most drowning incidents occur in water reservoirs.

Last year, 59 people drowned in various incidents, the CDD statistics said.



HRH Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein on Monday attended exercises of Public Security Department (PSD) staff at Swaga Training Centre. Attending the exercises also were PSD Director General Nasouh Muheiddin and PSD senior officials (Petra photo)

## Deputies discuss new House statute

AMMAN (Petra) — House deputies Monday met to discuss the implementation of a new Lower House statute which was endorsed by the deputies and ratified by a Royal Decree earlier this year.

After the meeting Speaker Saad Hayel Srour said the internal laws comprise 20 chapters on various House related functions call for the creation of 14 committees that would be related to the various functions of state ministries.

The meeting, attended by heads of various parliamentary blocs, the House's permanent bureau and independent deputies, agreed that all blocs should name their members in the committees while the independent deputies will have the right to nominate themselves to any committee they wish to join, said Mr. Srour.

The statute, he added, not only covers all House affairs and functions but also provides for greater flexibility in the chamber's work and has a special chapter dealing with administrative and financial affairs and employees, noting that the 14 committees will be elected at the start of each session.

According to Mr. Srour, the internal laws provide a system regulating the process of submitting queries and receiving replies from government ministers, voting, duration of speeches, general debates and other matters.

He said that the statute will be soon be put into force.

Under the new internal laws, the House Speaker represents all the members, prepares the agenda for each meeting, defines the topics to be debated by the deputies and the duration of speeches, declares the House statements and follows upon their implementation.

The 14 committees to be formed under the new internal laws are those that will deal with economy and finance, Arab and international affairs, administration, culture and education, national guidance, health and the environment, water and irrigation, law, labour and social development, energy and mineral resources, public services and tourism and antiquities, public freedoms and citizens rights, Palestine and rural and badia affairs.

The law also gives details about the function of each of these committees.

## Senators deny deliberate delay in endorsement of corruption law

AMMAN (J.T.) — In an interview in Al Aswaq Arabic daily published Monday, three senators denied allegations that the Senate has since 1990 been deliberately delaying the endorsement of a draft law on corruption saying the delay is caused by differences in opinions on at least eight articles between the Lower House and the Senate.

Senator Taher Hikmat, a lawyer, said there are no attempts whatsoever to delay the passing of the law which could be submitted to parliament's extraordinary session this summer.

"I am in favour of making it mandatory for any public official to have his/her financial status scrutinised before he or she assumes office," Mr. Hikmat said.

But he added that "there was no need for parliament to set new penalties for people who could be found in violation of the law because existing laws carry sufficient penalties to deal with such violations."

"In my view such a law, which still requires some amendments, would be considered the best tool for combating corruption, and I believe that the government is serious about fighting corruption and is in need of such a law to do that," said Mr. Hikmat.

Mr. Hikmat, a former minister, said that people can not be put on trial for alleged acts of corruption without concrete evidence, and said whoever raises accusations should be prepared to provide evidence of corruption.

Senator Kamal Shaer echoed Mr. Hikmat's view that the delay in passing the law was not deliberate but rather due to differences between the two legislative chambers.

"The Lower House and the Senate could not reach a final settlement because they disagreed on eight articles, and therefore there is a need for a joint session to help the two chambers reach a common denominator," said Mr. Shaer.

The draft law, which was formulated in 1990, has been referred back and forth between the two chambers at least four times without a consensus, and according to Mr. Shaer, the two houses had formed ad hoc committees to help them reach a solution but added that the two sides have thus far found no time for a joint meeting.

He said that in case the two sides arrive at an agreement on the law it should not be applied retroactively since that would contravene the Constitution.

"But as a member of the Senate I do not find any justification for passing such a law and I do not approve of such a law covering parliament members because they are the people who legislate laws," he added.

"At the same time," he said, "Jordanian laws include provisions that fight corruption and impose penalties on violators, and therefore I believe that talk about corruption since 1990, and raising the question of passing such a law at pre-

sent is bound to shake people's confidence in the state and would damage the country's reputation," said Senator Shaer.

He said "no country in the world is free of some kind of corruption, and I am confident that Jordan is among the countries that practise efficient administration and is among the least plagued with corruption."

For his part Senator Jawdat Shoul stressed that parliament does not neglect its laws or shelve them.

"The draft law in question has been delayed as parliament gave priority to other legislation that seemed more urgent as the country was entering a new political era, and so the earlier sessions ended without any opportunity for the draft law on illegal amassing of wealth to be endorsed," according to Mr. Shoul.

The draft law which was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament had demanded that it be applicable to the prime minister, cabinet members, speakers and members of the Senate and the Lower House as well as officials of various trade unions, organisations and federations and calls for the creation of a special department at the Ministry of Justice to be entrusted with investigating alleged cases of corruption and determine the kind of penalties to be imposed on violators.



Saul Broudy

## Teams prepare meeting of Jordan-Yemen committee

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Jordanian-Yemeni Committee, co-chaired by the prime ministers of the both countries, will open a meeting in Amman Wednesday to discuss the development of bilateral relations and issue recommendations which would further contribute to bolstering Yemeni Jordanian ties, according to Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti Monday.

In an interview with the Yemeni newspaper "14 October," Mr. Kabariti said the joint committee will review and endorse plans for promoting Mr. Kabariti said that the joint meeting on Wednesday will no doubt boost cooperation at a time when Arab states are in most need of re-establishing solidarity among themselves to face common challenges.

Preparations for the joint committee meeting began on Sunday evening at the Ministry of Industry and Trade following the arrival here by Yuther Saeedi, under secretary at the Yemeni Ministry of Planning who is head of his country's delegation to the preparatory talks.

Mr. Saeedi said his country is determined to cooperate with Jordan to deal with the coming economic era.

Secretary General of Jordan's Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Smadi will head the Jordanian team. Dr. Smadi said he hoped that the two sides will intensify their efforts towards helping both countries achieve further economic progress.

The two sides agreed on the formation of several sub-committees grouping representatives of various sectors in the two countries to discuss economy, trade, customs, specifications and standards, trade exchanges, health, agriculture, fisheries, electricity, energy, mining, postal and telecommunications services, education, culture, youth and sports.

The meeting will prepare a final report to be submitted to the higher committee at its Wednesday meeting.

## Police testify in subversion trial

Officers say they do not know who shot envoy

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

French diplomat." According to the prosecution, both defendants were trying to take over a tourist bus, but failed because of security forces who were present at the scene.

The defendants fled the scene and came across Mr. Heine, a second secretary at the French embassy, then the prosecution said.

They struggled with the French couple, and a police patrol noticed the fight and came to the rescue, the document said.

The French diplomat was shot in the chest and foot after the police after police and the attackers exchanged fire, the prosecution charged.

They also said that the confiscated three bottles of Pepsi filled with Kerosene which could be used for an attack (molotov).

The two are standing trial at the State Security Court on charges of plotting to carry out extremist attacks, possessing illegal explosives and arms, and manufacturing hand-made explosives.

They are also being tried at the Amman Criminal Court on charges of shooting and wounding French diplomat Gilles Heine. Their next court session at the criminal court is on July 7.

At the end of the four hour session, presiding Judge Yousef Faouri postponed the case for today to continue hearing the last two prosecution witness, a security officer and an explosives expert.

## American folklore duo to play old favourites in Amman, Irbid

AMMAN (J.T.) — American folklore artists Saul Broudy and Bob Green will come to Amman July 10-11 to present America's favourite original musical selections in a performance entitled "The Roots of American Culture" according to U.S. Information Service statement.

With more than 40 years of experience, Broudy and Green perform classic blues, country, bluegrass and other traditional and contemporary forms of grassroots American music, the statement said.

With dozens of recordings and hundreds of performances between them, the U.S. embassy promises that audiences "will be taken back into the rich history of American folklore from where their special brand of music originates."

Students of Yarmouk University in Irbid can see Broudy and Green on Wednesday, July 10 at 2:00 p.m.

In Amman, Broudy and Green will perform an outdoor concert at the American Embassy on Thursday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m., co-sponsored by the Fulbright Commission and the Marriott Hotel.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### Seventh Fuhels Cultural Festival

\*Political play (Comedy) entitled "Five-Star Government" at 9:00 p.m.

\*Seminar (Arabic) on Arab and Jordanian newspapers with the participation of Ziyad Abu Ghannouch, Amal Naffa, Mesalam Beseio, and Subair Al Tal at 6:30 p.m.

\*Poetry recital with the participation of Murid Barghouti, Ibrahim Al Khafif, Nabilah Al Khafif, and Mohammad Lafi at 8:00 p.m.

\*Exhibitions on Arab cities, Jordanian figures, Arab press, books, hand-made products, and others.

#### FILM

\*Children's film entitled "The Silver Chair" (Part I) at the British Council at 5:00 p.m.

#### EXHIBITIONS

\*Black and White paintings exhibition of works conducted in half a century (1913-1966) entitled "Heureux Dimanche" at the French Cultural Centre, until July 20.

\*Ceramics exhibition at Jordan Design and Trade Centre, off Wadi Saqra Street Tel 699141/2 until July 25.

\*Abstract (plastic art) by Arab woman artists at Baladna Art Gallery, Gardens st. (Tel 687598, until July 4.

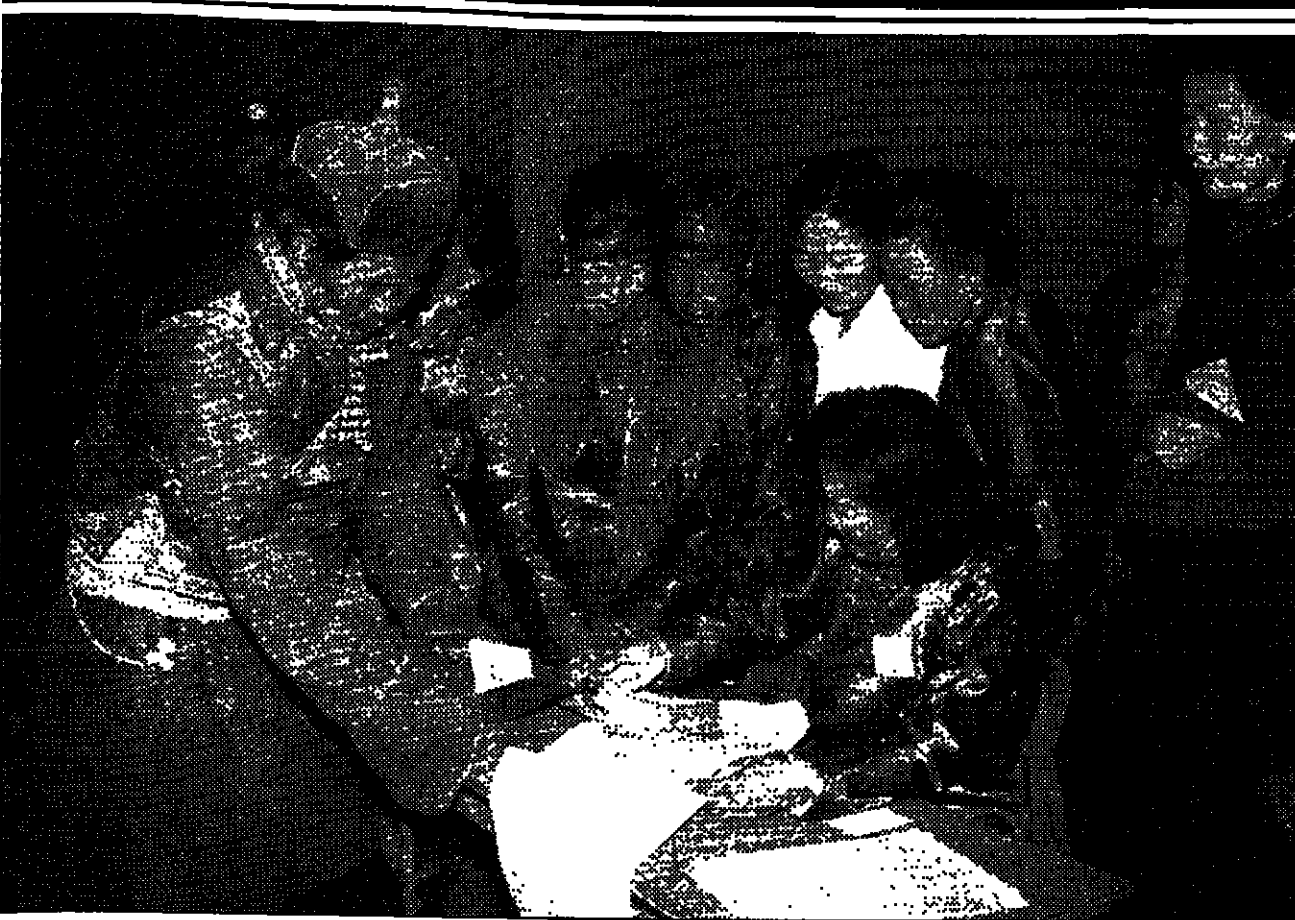


PITCH THOSE TENTS: Minister of Education Munther Masri Monday welcomes and distributes membership certificates to participants at the opening of the Tenth Islamic Summer Camp which lasts for one week at Amman National Park. Taking part in the camp are 205 young men from different Muslim countries. (Petra photo)









Mongolian voters, in traditional colourful robes, line up to register before casting their ballots in Delgerhaan, a regional centre 250 kilometres from Ulan Bator, as the country's general elections began on June 30. Mongolia's opposition Democratic Union Coalition swept to victory over the ruling party after 70 years of communism, capturing 48 out of 71 seats declared (Reuters photo)

## Mongolia Democrats trounce ruling party in poll

ULAN BATOR (R) — Mongolia's opposition Democratic Union Coalition (DUC) swept to a landslide victory Monday in parliamentary elections, crushing the ex-Communists who ruled the vast land of steppes for 75 years.

"We have victory," Enkh-saikhan, head of the coalition that allies the two main opposition parties, the National Democratic Party (NDP) and the Social Democratic Party (SDP), said in an interview.

"Today I'm feeling, as a person and citizen of democratic Mongolia, that democracy will really develop," said Mr. Gonchigdorj, who scored an upset to defeat Deputy Prime Minister Purevdorj of the Mongolian Revolutionary

People's Party (MPPR). Sunday's polls were the second for the 76-seat great hural, or parliament, under a post-Communist constitution adopted in 1992 after democratic protests ended Communist rule in 1990.

A cheering crowd of hundreds greeted victorious coalition officials outside their headquarters shortly after the election committee announced the initial results, dancing, hugging each other and weeping for joy at their surprise victory.

The opposition coalition won 48 seats, with the NDP capturing 33 and the SDP taking 12. Non-party candidates running under the coalition banner won three seats, election committee chief Lhagrasuren told reporters.

The ruling, formerly Communist, MPPR won 23 seats with results of the final five seats yet to be counted, he said. Voter turnout was 87.3 per

cent, according to preliminary figures, he said.

In another upset, MPPR General Secretary Dash-Yondon fell to a virtual unknown from the Democratic Coalition.

Officials of the MPPR seemed stunned and refused to make any formal comment.

"This is the choice of the nation," said one MPPR official who declined to be identified. "I would like to congratulate our young people, but they have to keep their promises."

Analysts said the polls appeared free and fair, with much of the voting split along age lines. Older voters opted for the MPPR, while the younger favoured the opposition which campaigned for faster economic liberalisation and political reform.

Coalition officials said the immediate problem was to focus on forming a government and to tackle economic

and social ills that have racked the land of 2.3 million people in its transition from Soviet-style planning to free market democracy.

"We will have a new government structure that will be able to serve our people democratically," Mr. Gonchigdorj said.

The Democrats, who won just six seats in the 1992 elections against a commanding 70 seats for the ruling ex-Communists, faced a tough job ahead in government, officials said.

"Of course, first I'm happy, but second I'm a little scared about what we have to do," said one victorious opposition candidate. "We have a big responsibility."

Mr. Gonchigdorj declined to comment on whom the coalition would nominate for prime minister but said he was a likely candidate for speaker of parliament.

## Australia becomes world first with suicide laws

DARWIN, Australia (R) — The world's first voluntary euthanasia laws came into force in Australia's northern territory Monday, but doctors were warned not to assist terminally-ill patients to die pending court challenges.

Australian taxi driver Max Bell, 65, one of the first to try to use the law after moving to the territory, was expected Monday to have his doctor sign a voluntary euthanasia declaration.

But Mr. Bell, who suffers terminal stomach cancer, needs three signatures, two medical practitioners and a psychologist, to sign his euthanasia application.

Under the law passed by the territory's parliament in May, doctors must confirm a patient is terminally ill, sound of mind and wants to

die. After gaining the signatures, a patient must wait seven days and then make a final decision, with a waiting period of another 48 hours before a fatal injection.

"We are not certain that we have got the three doctors prepared to stand up on this one and...make sure the law is enacted," said Mr. Bell's doctor Philip Nitschke, labelled "doctor death" by euthanasia opponents.

The territory's Health Department and Australian Medical Association (AMA), which represents doctors, have both warned medical practitioners not to assist patients to die until the outcome of court challenges to the new law.

A coalition against euthanasia, which includes the AMA, lawyers, church and

aboriginal leaders, Monday started a Supreme Court challenge in Darwin to the new euthanasia law.

The group argues the law violates the common law that only courts can authorise the taking of life, not parliament.

"The Australian constitution implies clearly a right to life and not a right to die or be killed," said head of the territory's AMA Dr. Chris Wake.

"Parliament cannot kill people even with consent arrangements, only the judiciary can do that."

Euthanasia opponents have warned they will appeal to the high court if necessary while a politician plans to introduce a private bill to the national parliament in August to retrospectively overturn the volun-

tary euthanasia law.

Australia's national government has constitutional power over Australian territories, but not states.

The politician, Kevin Andrews, of the ruling Liberal-National Coalition, said doctors that helped patients die could be charged with murder if his bill is passed.

"In that case they ought to take careful consideration of their position," he said.

Prime Minister John Howard, who opposes euthanasia, has said he would allow a conscience vote on the bill.

Euthanasia is illegal in the rest of Australia but doctors say the practice occurs unofficially.

## Indian premier battles fresh revolt in ranks

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda faced a fresh revolt Monday within the ranks of his newly expanded cabinet as an indignant junior minister refused to join the government.

New minister Raghubans Prasad Singh, resentful over his junior rank in the United Front council of ministers, refused to meet Mr. Deve Gowda after being assigned the post and was unlikely to take office in the near future, United News of India said.

Mr. Singh had boycotted Friday's swearing-in ceremony in a fit of pique, officials said. The news agency said party officials had pleaded in vain with Mr. Singh not to embarrass the government.

The Press Trust of India quoted Mr. Singh, who has not yet been allocated a portfolio, as saying he felt he had been humiliated by Mr. Deve Gowda because less experienced politicians had been given cabinet minister rank.

The prime minister Friday expanded his month-old cabinet to include a broader range of parties and regions from his 13-party coalition, which includes Communists, peasant groups and radical free-traders.

But the strategy seemed to backfire almost immediately when Junior Minister R.L. Jalappa rushed out of the swearing-in ceremony, locked himself in a room for more than four hours and threatened to resign unless he was given cabinet minister rank.

The crisis blew over Saturday when Mr. Deve Gowda handed Mr. Jalappa independent charge of the Textiles Ministry.

But the prime minister ran into trouble Monday with the sole lawmaker from the Himalayan state of Jammu and Kashmir in his party, the Indian Express newspaper said.

It said Mohammad Maqbool Dar was grumbling over being left out from the cabinet and had threatened to resign and float a rival regional party unless he was included. Mr. Deve Gowda was scheduled to meet Mr. Dar to defuse the crisis, the daily said.

A senior party official dismissed the government's problems as normal teething troubles of a nascent ministry.

## Britain's Blair strives to remain on road to power

LONDON (R) — British opposition leader Tony Blair was working Monday to finalise a crucial pre-election manifesto amid signs of a revival of support for the government and internal dissent within his Labour Party.

Mr. Blair was preparing the final draft of the manifesto which his party will launch with a fanfare Thursday, and to which the Conservatives are expected to respond with a massive advertising blitz.

The document will put Labour on a war footing for a general election which must be held by May 1997, but

which could take place this year if Prime Minister John Major believes his Conservatives could sneak a fifth consecutive victory.

Aides said Mr. Blair will not be deflected from setting out a moderate stance for his party by the protests of disgruntled left-wingers, one of whom described party policies Monday as "tired and anaemic."

"Labour has changed unashamedly to become the party of the centre and centre-left, not to ape the Conservatives as our opponents claim, but because the world around us has changed," key Blair aide Peter

Mandelson wrote in Monday's Daily Express.

A furious internal labour row sparked last week by Mr. Blair's decision to water down the party's commitment to separate parliaments for Scotland and Wales has delighted its opponents.

Legislator John McAllion resigned as deputy Scottish spokesman in protest at a move to hold referendums before proceeding with the policy, and several other Labour MPs protested at Mr. Blair's failure to consult them on the switch.

## Yeltsin makes awkward TV appearance before runoff

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's Boris Yeltsin resurfaced after a five-day absence in the presidential race Monday, but a stiff, awkward television appearance seemed hardly designed to instil confidence two days before the runoff vote.

Mr. Yeltsin spoke for two minutes on Russia's main television channel, appealing to Russians to vote in Wednesday's second round against Communist Genady Zyuganov.

"I know exactly what to do, I have the strength, will and decisiveness for that. What is needed now is your support," he said, speaking with a slightly hoarse voice.

Mr. Zyuganov, speaking before the broadcast, demanded an official report about Mr. Yeltsin's health after the president cancelled a series of appearances, including a three-way summit with the leaders of Ukraine and Moldova Monday.

"We haven't seen Mr. Yeltsin for four days," Mr. Zyuganov, who faces Mr. Yeltsin in the runoff, told a news conference, referring to Mr. Yeltsin's disappearance from the public eye.

"I want to see the official conclusion on the state of health of Mr. Yeltsin."

Mr. Yeltsin, 65, had two mild heart attacks last year, but he positively glowed

with health before the first round of the election, dancing for the cameras as he lobbied for votes.

But last week he cancelled engagements and campaign trips in Moscow and outside the capital. Aides said he had lost his voice in the gruelling run-up to the second round and he needed a rest.

Financial markets were not convinced. The price of Russian debt fell on international markets and Russian shares were also under pressure. Dealers said prices rose on Mr. Yeltsin's TV appearance, but they were not sure that the rise would last.

The Kremlin did not say where Monday's broadcast had been filmed. However, it did say that Mr. Yeltsin met Mr. Chernomyrdin at his country residence outside Moscow Monday and a brief clip of that meeting appeared to have been filmed before the same wooden panels.

Mr. Yeltsin, who scraped in three points ahead of Mr. Zyuganov in the June 16 first round, is well ahead in most opinion polls. But polls have a poor track record in Russia and pollsters admit their figures the runoff could be close.

Forecasts which adjust raw opinion poll figures and extrapolate likely results show a much closer race — one gives Mr. Yeltsin

around 50 per cent and says Mr. Zyuganov will get 47 per cent.

Mr. Yeltsin's aides are still confident of victory on July 3, but only if well over 60 per cent turn out to vote.

Mr. Yeltsin highlighted the need to tempt Russians to the polls in his broadcast. "You must not stay at home on July 3. If you do not vote, it is also a choice, but a choice against Russia."

Mr. Yeltsin's wooden performance clearly lacked the energy and aggressiveness which characterised his campaign in the run-up to the first, indecisive round on June 16.

He barely moved his body and spoke in a somewhat mechanical way. His appeal was written in short, easy to read sentences.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told foreign business leaders on Monday that most Russians supported Mr. Yeltsin's reforms, despite the hardship which accompanied the changes.

"Most Russians understand that the worst is over. Now Russia is ready to move ahead and Russians are ready to give Boris Yeltsin a mandate to complete reforms," he said.

The runoff is due Wednesday, but Russians in some parts of the former Soviet Union have already cast their ballots.

Interfax News Agency,

quoting an official at the Russian embassy in the Kazakh capital Almaty, said about 70 per cent of the 654 Russians who voted there pSunday chose Mr. Yeltsin.

Central Electoral Commission Chairman Nikolai Ryabov said the publication of voting results was "absolutely unacceptable" before all the polls had closed.

"I am issuing an official warning against such actions," he said. "Neither mass media nor officials should try to publish results prematurely, even from a single polling station as it affects directly the secret ballot across Russia."

Russian law is contradictory on what would happen if Mr. Yeltsin pulled out of the presidential race.

The constitution says that if the president cannot carry out his duties because of ill-health, the prime minister takes over and organises an election within three months.

But the law on the presidential election says that, if one of the two second-round candidates drops out, he is replaced by the first-round candidate who finished third. Third-placed Alexander Lebed is now Mr. Yeltsin's national security chief.

Most experts agree that it would be up to Russia's Constitutional Court to rule on the issue.

## Another radiation leak takes place in Chernobyl

KIEV (R) — A small amount of radiation was released in one of two working reactors at the Chernobyl power station, site of the world's worst nuclear disaster, plant staff and Ukraine's nuclear authority said Monday.

Galina Nosach, an engineer at the station 140 kilometres north of Kiev, said the leak occurred in a corridor in the main room of Chernobyl's reactor No. 1.

She said the incident rated zero on the 0-7 international scale of "nuclear events" and posed no threat to staff or the environment. It was the latest in a long series of incidents at the plant, due to close by the end of the century.

"It's still not clear why this happened," Ms. Nosach said by telephone.

"Why does there have to be such a fuss about every little trivial occurrence? This can happen at any station. But we do understand that our station is viewed as a special one."

Tetyana Yagish, a spokeswoman for Ukraine's Nuclear Authority, said the leak was at levels five times higher than normal in a corridor used by staff.

"They discovered it on Friday and completed the clean-up operation on Saturday," she said.

Ms. Yagish said the leak occurred as staff were monitoring the insides of the reactor using television cameras.

The incident was the second in two weeks at the station, where two reactors still produce about five per cent of Ukraine's electricity. Last week, a fire broke out at a storage shed near the third reactor, but was quickly extinguished.

President Leonid Kuchma last year promised to close Chernobyl for good by the end of the century and G7 wealthy nations have pledged more than \$3 billion in aid and grants to complete the operation. Reactor No. 1 is to close by November.

But Ukrainian officials claim the money is not being released quickly enough to get started.

## Ireland starts 6-month EU presidency

DUBLIN (AFP) — Ireland took the reins of the European Union Monday, beginning a six-month presidency it aims to focus on monetary union, unemployment, drugs and returning an alienated Britain to the European fold.

European Commission Chairman Jacques Santer and his 19 commissioners were due here for official ceremonies marking the passing of the baton to Ireland.

That was to be followed by two days of talks with Irish Prime Minister John Bruton and his government to chart a course for Europe through waters still choppy in the wake of the British beef crisis.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, who will wield the EU gavel, made it clear Monday that the four-month-old crisis over bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in British beef had damaged the European Union.

But he was optimistic over a framework agreed at the EU summit in Florence last month which could result in the ban being lifted beginning as early as October.

"What we have to do now is build and have a constructive relationship between Britain and the rest of the member states," Mr. Spring told BBC Radio.

"What the Irish presidency wants to do is to build on the conclusions of Florence, on the goodwill established there between the member states and Britain and see a follow-through on the framework."

Mr. Bruton had warned earlier that Britain's trade and prosperity would suffer unless it fully reintegrated itself into the union.

He cautioned London against being "semi-detached" and made it clear he wanted the Irish presidency to mark progress towards a single currency with Britain on board.

When the EU was formed, Britain negotiated a delay in declaring its participation in

monetary union, and its position is still a question mark.

Ireland is only one of three EU nations which currently meet the economic criteria for joining the single currency in the first wave in 1999, but Dublin is said to be concerned about risks to its own position if Britain decides not to replace sterling with the Euro-currency.

The danger of countries outside the single currency system embarking on competitive devaluation with those inside is seen as a major problem for Ireland, which does some 40 per cent of its import and export trade with Britain.

"Europe-wide management of the currency, including Britain, will provide stable money in peoples' pockets," said Mr. Bruton. "That is a distinct improvement from Britain's point of view."

"Britain's interests...depend very greatly on its continued close links with Europe, and on it being seen as in the driving seat of Europe rather than in a semi-detached status in the rear," he said.

"A huge number of British jobs depend on the fact that Britain is in the EU and has access for its exports to the largest market in the world."

Ireland's avowed intention to crack down on drug trafficking in the EU was accentuated last week with the gang-style murder of Irish journalist Veronica Guerin, who had been investigating underworld activities.

Ireland will also be steering the on-going intergovernmental conference (IGC) which is reviewing the Maastricht treaty that spawned the EU.

Ireland is pushing for inclusion of a so-called "unemployment chapter" in the revised treaty that would create an EU employment committee to monitor employment policies of member, putting itself on a collision course with Britain, Germany and other countries opposing the idea.

## Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party wins Pakistani Kashmir election

ISLAMABAD (R) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was declared the winner Monday of a showpiece election in Pakistan-ruled Azad (Free) Kashmir as competing parties accused each other of vote-rigging.

The Pakistani news agency (APP) said the PPP and its allied groups, which were in opposition in Azad Kashmir, had won a two-thirds majority of the 40 seats of the 48-seat Legislative Assembly that were at stake in Sunday's election.

But the State Election Commission had declared results for only 27 seats by late afternoon Monday, giving the PPP 19, an allied group one, and Azad Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Abdul Qayyum's All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference (AJKMC) party four seats. Three seats were won by independents.

Mr. Qayyum accused Islamabad of rigging the election by doling out state funds and sending what he

called gangs of criminals to intimidate voters.

The PPP has denied the charge and said the AJKMC defeat was the result of public dissatisfaction over corruption in Mr. Qayyum's government. Mr. Qayyum rejects the charge.

The Legislative Assembly, whose eight other members will be elected by the 40 directly-elected deputies, is the lower house of a two-tier parliament in Azad Kashmir and elects the prime minister for the territory for a five-year term.

India controls two-thirds and Pakistan the rest of the divided Himalayan region, over which the two countries have fought two of their three wars since their independence from Britain in 1947.

Mr. Qayyum, who is closely aligned with Ms. Bhutto's political opponents in Pakistan, told Reuters after polling closed Sunday that he believed Islamabad did all it could to make sure the PPP won the election.

State PPP Information Secretary Khawaja Farooq Ahmad, who defeated Mr. Qayyum in the state capital Muzaffarabad, denied the charge and accused the AJKMC government of vote-rigging in various constituencies.

"Qayyum's defeat is the result of a popular wave against the massive corruption of his government and his insincerity to the freedom struggle in (Indian-ruled) Kashmir," he said.

Mr. Qayyum, who contested two constituencies and won one of them from his district of Bagh, virtually conceded defeat, but said he had been cheated. Several of his ministers were defeated.

Pakistan Education Minister Khurshid Ahmad Shah, who was in charge of the PPP election campaign, said the new government in Azad Kashmir would investigate corruption charges against the Qayyum government.







## Republicans target Perry over Saudi bomb attack

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Perry should remain as secretary.

"I think there's a real need to shake up the Defence Department and a real question as to whether William J. Perry is the right man to be secretary of defence," Mr. Specter said during an interview to NBC television.

The White House on Monday reiterated its support for Mr. Perry and said questions about the security surrounding the Saudi base and other U.S. military installations in the region were being addressed. "The security situation in Dhahran and elsewhere in the Middle East is now under review by General (Wayne) Downing," White House spokesman Michael McCurry said.

"We are confident that there were security measures in place that saved lives and as to whether there should be or should have been additional security measures, General Downing is looking closely at that now," Mr. McCurry said.

Mr. Perry, who left Saudi Arabia on Sunday after a brief visit, confirmed that Saudi authorities had refused earlier this year to allow U.S. defense officials to expand the security perimeter around the housing complex, the New York Times reported.

Mr. Cohen suggested that the Saudis would have to answer for their failure to take the security threat seriously, adding: "If they're unwilling to do that, then it's going to change the nature of the relationship" between Riyadh and Washington.

Saudi Arabia is Washington's closest ally in the region and home to the largest contingent of U.S. troops in the Gulf.

The congressional hearing was also to focus on determining who was responsible for securing the protection of U.S. servicemen in Saudi Arabia and for raising concerns with the Saudi authorities, Mr. Cohen said.

Questions will be raised as to whether Mr. Perry or Mr. Clinton should have ultimately taken the matter in hand to ensure the full cooperation of the Saudi authorities, he added.

Saudi officials also reportedly refused to allow U.S. investigators to question the four Saudi Islamic fundamentalists who were beheaded on May 31 for a previous bomb attack in November.

Five Americans and two Indians died in that bombing at a U.S.-Saudi training center in Riyadh.

# The status and importance of environmental education in Jordan

By Dr. Jaser K. Rabadi

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION is vital in delivering the various facts and concepts about environment to people, particularly those facts which directly affect their daily lives. These facts are then expected to be converted into skills which will be employed in the daily practices of man. In this context, education is defined as presenting these facts systematically, in the form of textbooks, in schools and universities, without the need for specialisation.

A classic example of the role of education in promoting certain concepts is the following: physics is not, really, a very popular subject among Jordanians, but teaching physics to various grades in Jordan has succeeded in introducing many facts and concepts about the science to a wide range of people, including those who are not really fond of physics.

The laws of light reflection (the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection) and Newton's 2nd law (action and reaction) are so popular that almost everybody knows them by heart and applies them, in some way or another, in his/her daily life. (not to mention the gravity law and Newton's apple).

Just like economy, ecology is a broad discipline which affects and is affected by man's activities. Because of close links between the environment and the human beings, proper environmental education is an indispensable matter. Any concept introduced to school children will stay with them for a long period of time and help them later contribute in the efforts exerted by the society to protect the environment.

Due to the social, economic and natural developments in developing countries, the environment is going through a serious degradation trend. Features of such degradation are droughts, desertification, deforestation, rise in the sea level, etc. Thus, protecting the environment is not a luxury practised in developed countries but rather an inevitable measure that developing countries should take to maintain sustainable development.

Furthermore, nations are forced to protect the environment according to the terms of international conventions and treaties that their governments have signed.

Realising the importance of environmental education, the Ministry of Education in Jordan has prepared a new curriculum package on environment. This package includes chapters on ecology, meteorology, hydrology, geology, oceanography and other earth sciences. The package aims at introducing to students the environment the problems facing it and possible solutions.

The first comprehensive school textbook on environment was introduced to 11 graders for the academic year 1995/96. The name of the book is Earth Science and Environment. The sequel of this series will be introduced to grade-12 students in the academic year 1996/97. Under the new education policy of the ministry this subject is optional.

Environmental education can help focus on activities meant to protect the environment and can serve the purpose of promoting awareness via the following three levels of education:

— Delivering basic knowledge: Proper education can identify the various elements of the environment. It can also explain the interactions and processes of these elements and the problems associated with these interactions. Ignorance is the major problem that faces environmental awareness in different parts of the world; one can detect several degrees of ignorance in this connection. The definition of "protect-

ing the environment" as "keeping your environment clean by not leaving plastic bags behind at a picnic site" shows ignorance of the first (simplest) degree. An advanced degree of ignorance is demonstrated daily and can easily be detected in environment-related seminars and workshops. Therefore, education can help introduce the essentials of environment to students and gradually to the society at large.

— Realising the problems: One can be made to realise that preserving water is important, for example. Then some problems regarding water, such as leakage and contamination, which can occur during the various stages of collection, transportation and distribution processes can be pointed out. Furthermore, education can demonstrate how unreliable rainy seasons can be in a country like Jordan. At this stage, students would realise that water supplies are neither unlimited nor

immune.

— Taking measures to mitigate the impact of the problems: This level serves as the ultimate goal of public awareness activities, where education can lead towards taking action to protect the environment. Actions do not need to be sophisticated and expensive nor does high technology need to be employed. Measures include fine adjustments to the life style and certain practices, such as water rationing and recycling, cutting down on electricity consumption and being humble enough to carry your watermelon without a plastic bag.

The writer is director of Applied Meteorology at the Meteorological Department. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

## Palestinian protesters demand release of 6,000 from Israeli jails

(Continued from page 1)

gave us our freedom. We must take it for ourselves."

Abdul Fatah Hamayel, a former detainee who represents Ramallah on the Palestinian council, said: "Negotiations with Israel have dragged for months. The Israelis have not fulfilled their promises."

Samir Khalil, who stood against Mr. Arafat in Jan. 20 presidential elections, said the current situation was "very bad," adding: "But nobody is going to

## Syria seeks better ties with Turkey

(Continued from page 1)

shifting sands of Middle East alliances.

"I strongly condemn this abhorrent attack and wish that Allah shows compassion to our martyrs," Mr. Erbakan said in a message to the armed forces' chief over the suicide attack Sunday that left nine soldiers killed.

Mr. Erbakan, Turkey's first Islamist leader, has called for closer relations with Damascus as part of his plans to increase cooperation with the Muslim world.

He denies a link between the rebels and Syria. Last year he called for the two countries' common border to be lifted.

Political analysts said Mr. Erbakan's Welfare Party would probably pull back from a pledge to scrap the Israeli pact, under pressure from Turkey's influential military.

"They might make statements to appease the Arabs and say they will look over the accord with Israel but you can be sure they will quietly do everything necessary to make sure the agreement is carried out," said Professor Dogu Ergil, an expert on Turkey's relations with the Middle East.

"Welfare is a party from Turkey and Turkey's reality is very different from that of the Middle East," he said. In Cairo the Syrian

Deputy Foreign Minister Adnan Omran said Monday that the accord between Turkey and Israel will eventually be cast aside.

"This accord will just be a dead letter. It poses a danger for all the Arab and Muslim countries. Turkish public opinion is realising that day by day and in the end it will not accept this agreement," he told journalists.

Syria has led widespread Arab condemnation of the accord reached in February which it believes is a threat to its security.

Earlier the Syrian daily Tishreen said it was ready to resolve the problems straining its ties with Turkey with the new government of Mr. Erbakan.

Mr. Erbakan's pro-Islamic Welfare Party has opposed the accord. The new Turkish premier said Saturday he would respect international accords already signed but warned that "those provisions which are against our national interests and security will not be implemented."

Mr. Omran held talks in Cairo with Arab League chief Esmat Abdul Meguid on the peace process. And he called on the co-sponsors the United States and Russia to "pressure Israel to make it understand that its positions are threatening peace and security in the region and pushing it towards a spiral of violence."

## PFLP studying leader's return to Palestinian self-rule areas

DAMASCUS (AFP) — A hardline Palestinian opposition movement said Monday it was discussing whether its deputy leader should return to the Palestinian territories, despite its opposition to the autonomy accords.

Maher Taber, a spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), told AFP: "The ruling bodies of the movement are discussing the issue of the return of (Abu Ali) Mustafa to the occupied territories." Mr. Mustafa is the deputy secretary general of the PFLP.

led by Georges Habash. Mr. Taher added the movement's policy was "to encourage the return" to the Gaza Strip and West Bank areas under the control of Yasser Arafat's self-rule authority. Three leaders from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) went back to the territories in April with the permission of Israel and the Palestinian National Authority.

Both the PFLP and the DFLP are firmly opposed to the autonomy accords struck between Israel and the PLO.

# Omar Belhouchet — hounded by the law

OMAR BELHOUCHE was born in Setif on February 9, 1953 and is the father of two children aged 11 and 12. After graduating from Algiers University with a degree in economics, he began his career in 1973 on La République, a French-language daily published in Oran, before moving on to the sports desk of the official news agency Algérie Presse Service (APS).

In 1975 he went to work for L'Unité, a young people's weekly. In 1978, after completing his military service, he joined the financial desk of the government daily Al Moudjahid. The Hamrouche decree that opened up the press sector enabled him to launch Al Watan (The Fatherland) on October 8, 1990, and he became its publishing manager.

On May 17, 1993, Omar Belhouchet, who is secretary of the Newspaper Publishers' Association to which 18 newspapers belong, was the target of the first in the current wave of attacks aimed at journalists. He escaped another attempt on his life on January 1, 1995.

He has been awarded three international press freedom prizes. His trouble with the authorities began in January 1993, a year after the government cancelled the election process, when Al Watan (correctly) reported that five police officers had died in an attack by an armed fundamentalist group in Laghouat.

Omar Belhouchet and five of his staff were held for a week at Serkadji prison and charged with "damaging state security and national defence," "insulting a constituent body" and "disclosing information prematurely." Al Watan was suspended sine die.

The journalists were released on January 9, 1993, four days before the suspension order against Al Watan was lifted. The case has still not come to trial. The newspaper has since been suspended on three occasions for disclosing "security-related" information, which was made subject to censorship by a ministerial decree on June 7, 1994.

Within two years, Omar Belhouchet has been accused on 23 counts, 12 of which are still pending. Charges of "damaging state security" and "insulting a constituent body" are frequently brought against him because they allow the

courts to pass longer sentences (up to two years) than if he were accused of libel, for which the maximum sentence is six months, and because these charges can be handled directly by the public prosecutor's department, with no plaintiff required.

**"Al Watan (The Fatherland) was launched on October 8, 1990, by 20 journalists from two state newspapers, the daily Al Moudjahid and the weekly Révolution africaine, who decided to form their own company. Only 18 of them remain. The newspaper soon became the preferred daily of French-speaking Algerian executives. Its editorial staff, with 25 journalists based in Algiers, is still one of the biggest in the country, even though about 20 people in a row left after threats from armed groups."**

Moreover, legal supervision orders mean he has to appear before an examining magistrate once a week, is banned from leaving the country (his passport has been confiscated) and is not allowed to write or speak in public. The latest supervision order was lifted on May 18. Another charge concerns a report on the arrest of Zoubir Souissi, the former

Seventeen journalists were killed since January 1, 1996:

Algeria	7	Cambodia	1	Pakistan	1
Russia	2	Turkey	1		
Bangladesh	1	India	1	Philippines	1
		Tajikistan	1		

One hundred and seven journalists were imprisoned on April 23, 1996:

Algeria	2	C. African Rep.	1	Ethiopia	19
Kuwait	8	Pakistan	1	Tunisia	2
Burma	7	Gambia	2	Libya	1
Peru	5	Turkey	10		
Burundi	3	China	16	India	1
Niger	1	Rwanda	3	Vietnam	5
Cameroon	1	Côte d'Ivoire	3	Indonesia	3
Nigeria	5	Syria	8		

# Tattoos make their mark in Germany

By Clifford Coonan  
Reuter

FRANKFURT — Tattoos are not quite de rigueur yet in Germany's polite society, but changing fashions have given them a wider appeal.

Once popularly viewed as the preserve of sailors, burglars, navvies or side-show freaks, they are becoming increasingly common in other walks of life.

Policemen, supermodels, vicars, politicians, journalists and doctors have now joined the queue for the tattooist.

"You would be very surprised to see some of the people I get coming in to get tattoos done," said Sting, the spokesman for the German Tattooists' Organisation (DOT), who lists doctors and a host of other professionals among his clientele.

A Nebraska-born tattoo artist based in the West German town of Ludwigshafen, he is called Sting because he says to customers that getting a tattoo doesn't

hurt — it stings. "In fact it hurts like hell, but if my nickname was hurts like hell I wouldn't get any business," he told Reuters.

Tattoos have been with us for a very long time. Almost as long as people have been walking upright, they have been engraving their bodies with pictures for religious or purely decorative reasons.

Sting himself has spent long hours under the needle — his entire upper torso is decorated with a tattooed waistcoat, with a whole array of different pictures making up the design.

"You get into tattooing through being tattooed. You have to be tattooed first before becoming a tattooist. It has to come from the heart, and you have to be able to draw," said Sting.

The current vogue is for more artistic tattoos, with dragons, unicorns, Celtic designs and small tattoos in secret places very much the popular choices, rather than the traditional "mum" engraved on a forearm.

A tattoo can be drawn free-hand or from a

"flash", which is a tattoo stencil.

The tattoo artist views the body like a canvas, but a rather awkward one, with lots of difficult-to-get-at places.

"I hate doing places where the skin is really elastic and you need about six hands to stretch the skin. Gimme a shoulder anytime," says Sting, who also favours the arm or the chest.

There are two different kinds of tattoo-seeker. One is what Sting calls the "this is for me" tattoo, someone who gets a tattoo for themselves and will put it somewhere where it is unlikely to lose them their job, perhaps hidden beneath a shirt.

"Then there is the other mentality that this is art that people should be able to see it. So the arm and shoulderblade are really popular, or the chest," says Sting.

So where does it hurt most? There are the obvious places, such as the genitals and the head.

"The tailbone hurts a

lot, near the spine, the ribs — anywhere where there is thin skin directly over bone can be really, really painful," said Sting.

"The weirdest place I ever tattooed was the tip of a guy's penis. I've done some heads, and weird places on people's feet — not your everyday locations. The armpits are strange too."

It is important to think about what you are doing before getting a tattoo.

"You got to remember — you're stuck with that thing for the rest of your life. I don't care what the laser experts are promising about removals, to get rid of that thing you're gonna have to use a chainsaw," said Sting.

The hygiene issue is one on the mind of every potential tattooee, due to fears that the HIV virus can be spread through tattoo needles, meaning tattooists must take extra precautions.

"Infection is not an issue with a well-trained, well-prepared tattoo artist," said Sting. Anything that has

come into contact with the previous customer is sterilised and the hygiene issue is taken very seriously, as customer perception is very important.

Drunk customers, or customers who have taken aspirin, are not encouraged, as both aspirin and alcohol thin the blood and can lead to bleeding and slow down the healing process.

Tattooing is still an unregulated profession. "We have to be registered with the tax authorities and in some places with the health department, but for the main part we regulate ourselves," says Sting. The need for self-regulation came out of the need to drive "scratchers" or amateurs out of the market, part-time tattooists operating in basements or from their houses.

"They're dirty, they undercut prices, they steal customers — everybody hates them," says Sting, with the craftsman's traditional disdain for the hackish amateur.

There are around 50,000-60,000 tattoo machines in Germany, but often a tattoo artist will have more than one. Sting, for example, has 30.

The cost of a tattoo depends on the hours of work involved, whether the design is the tattooee's own or the artist's and whether or not the tattoo will need a touch-up.

"It can happen that you set a price and suddenly you find that the guy has skin like a buffalo, he's had maybe 16 sunburns in his life and it's a lot of work. It really depends," says Sting. Most people with a tattoo will say it was worth the pain. "No pain, no gain" seems to be the consensus.

As Sting says: "It only hurts once and then you've got it. And it's a good thing it hurts, otherwise everybody would have one. To tell the truth...The pain isn't really that bad."



# Jordan to increase exports to China

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and China Monday concluded three days of meetings here and signed minutes of their deliberations which covered cooperation in a wide range of economic and trade fields.

The minutes, which were signed by Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Nabil Ammari and China's delegation head Sun Gangshan, provide for a new contract which allows for the sale of an additional of 200,000 tonnes of potash to China during 1996.

The minutes also allocate a quota for China's imports of Jordanian fertilisers and give Jordan preference over other countries in China's fertiliser imports.

According to the minutes, Jordan will also sell a range of national products to China and the two countries will organise reciprocal trade fairs to promote sales of national products. In addition, both countries call for joint ventures especially in Jordanian free trade zones and the port city of Aqaba.

A Chinese spokesman told Jordan Television after

the meetings that the total amount of trade exchanges between Jordan and China in 1995 reached \$136 million and that the trade balance was in favour of China.

He said that China would help adjust the imbalance through increasing its imports of Jordanian goods and has already requested the Jordanian side to provide China with a list of goods it desires to sell to the Chinese markets.

The minutes call for the two countries to cooperate in technical and economic fields and to exchange expertise in the implementation of development projects.

The two sides discussed cooperation in cultural, scientific, sports, youth, technological and scientific fields.

At the start of the meetings, Dr. Ammari outlined the various incentives and exemptions given under Jordanian laws to foreign investors and expressed hope that the laws would attract China to make investments in the phos-



Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Nabil Ammari and the head of the Chinese delegation Monday sign the minutes of the meetings held over the past three days (Petra photo)

phate industry, the Dead Sea mineral projects and the Jordanian free trade

zones from where China can sell its products to countries in the Middle

East and Europe after concluding a partnership with the European Union.

## More and more Germans see economy worsening

BONN (R) — More and more Germans see their country's economic situation getting worse rather than better, a survey has indicated.

Some 55 per cent of Germans see the economy in decline compared to 52 per cent last month and 45 per cent in May, according to the Electoral Research Group poll of 1,285 Germans for national ZDF television.

But at the same time 50 per cent said their personal economic situation was good, compared to 45 per cent last month.

The German economy has been virtually stagnant since last year, and is expected to grow by less than one per cent in 1996 before picking up next year.

But economists say unemployment is likely to remain around post-war record levels of four million for some time.

They say consumers will soon feel the effect of a range of welfare, benefit and pension cuts in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's deficit-cutting austerity

package. According to the OECD, the German economy is set for a broad-based but slow recovery over the next six months, helped by gradually rising world demand for German exports and easier monetary policy.

But the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), noting that Germany began to emerge from a sharp six-month spell of weakness in the spring, said its 1997 growth rate might not exceed 2.4 to 2.5 per cent.

The economy was likely to grow by an anaemic 0.5 per cent in 1996 as a whole, down from about 2.0 per cent in 1995, with the jobless rate likely to rise by one full percentage point between 1995 and 1997, the OECD said in its half-yearly economic outlook.

Chief OECD economist Kumiharu Shigehara told reporters he was "basically optimistic" in regard to the outlook for Germany.

But he conceded that the adverse impact of the 1994 rise in long term interest

rates and the early 1995 currency turbulence, which saw the dollar nosediving against the yen and the Deutsche mark, "proved to be more powerful than we had estimated a few months ago."

The OECD said the resulting general decline in business and consumer confidence triggered an inventory correction and declining fixed business and private investment which cut German GDP by one percentage point in the final quarter of last year.

The inventory "decumulation" continued into the first quarter of this year as harsh weather conditions contributed to a sharp decline in construction activity.

The OECD said this was estimated to have led to a small decline in German GDP, of some 0.3 per cent, in the first half of 1996.

But it said a sharp deceleration of inflation, expected to run at an average rate of about 1.5 per cent until end-1997, and wage increases, should now boost

disposable income. Combined with rising export demand and a recovery in private residential construction helped by lower mortgage rates, this should help raise the level of activity from mid-1996, it said.

Business investment should also pick up, but increases might be "modest" because of cost pressures and low profitability.

High wage costs and low rates of return following the post-reunification investment boom, and low corporate profits, now appeared to have played "a key dampening role" in the current slowdown, the OECD said. An effective, trade-weighted, Deutsche mark

appreciation of some 6.0 per cent between 1991 and 1994 and an additional 5.0 per cent appreciation last year put pressure on German manufacturing industry to accelerate its ongoing restructuring.

Wage settlements raising wage costs by 5.5 and about 2.0 per cent in 1995 and this year added to the pressure, and surveys taken at the beginning of the year indicated that one-third of firms questioned were planning cutbacks in their labour force.

However, with inflation slowing more than the total wage bill, labour costs were likely to increase, still less

(Continued on page 9)

## Dole wants to make 'Clintonomics' a dirty word

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bill Clinton says he is proud of his economic record, but Republican challenger Bob Dole wants to make "Clintonomics" a dirty word.

And while the country has enjoyed economic growth during Mr. Clinton's presidency, Mr. Dole and other critics say Mr. Clinton's record is weak compared to some previous post-war expansions.

"One of the most amazing things about the present administration is they actually boast about the anaemic, substandard growth their policies have created," Mr. Dole, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, declared in a speech in Michigan.

Mr. Dole often harps on the fact that Mr. Clinton raised taxes in 1993, saying that move and other administration policies are "holding America back" from a real economic boom.

Since Mr. Clinton has been president, the U.S. gross national product has grown by 2.5 per cent a year — far better than the negative growth numbers during the 1990-91 recession under his immediate predecessor, Republican George Bush.

Still, Mr. Clinton's record is not as pretty as the 4.5 per cent annual growth during from 1982 to 1987, when Ronald Reagan was president, not to mention the whopping 6.2 per cent annual growth from 1961 to 1966, when John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson were in the White House.

The White House scoffs

at the idea that such comparisons could be used as a basis on which to attack the president. Mr. Clinton's economic adviser, Gene Sperling, said growth was better during the Reagan years only if public sector growth is included in the calculation. "When you look at the private sector, the Clinton economy has grown faster," he said.

Asked whether he worried about possible comparisons by the Dole campaign to the fabulous economic growth of the Kennedy years, Mr. Sperling had the following reply:

"If their best attack is that we only have the best economic record in the last 30 years, then they might want to think of a different topic." Mr. Dole's advisers say he will produce an economic policy agenda of his own sometime in or around the time of the Republican national convention in August. While some economists have advised him to embrace dramatic tax cuts, the shape of the Republican candidate's programme is still vague.

Sung Won Sohn, an economist with Norwest Corp. of Minneapolis, said Mr. Dole would have a hard time attacking Mr. Clinton on his macroeconomic record, because growth is steady while inflation and the jobless rate are low.

"If he (Dole) talks about macroeconomics, he will simply play into the hands of President Clinton," Mr. Sohn said. "If I were Dole's adviser I would say, shift

(Continued on page 9)

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 2, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Any private discussions you have today with your loved ones can bring fine results, so get together early. Stay within your financial means and you will be able to handle any lean periods without any concern.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 21) Get together with fellow associates at activities which can be mutually profitable today, be they of a practical or spiritual nature. Later tonight you will be able to meet with some close friends for some fun activities.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) One who is highly experienced in property affairs can be relied upon today to assist you in yours. Be happy with your loved ones later this evening and spend some quality time with those who live under your roof.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Study into new career activities today which can help to make your finest dreams come true and plan on utilizing them. Later this evening will be good for meeting with fellow associates and completing some new project.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Arrange a meeting with an expert in business affairs and get the advice you need today in order to improve your own affairs. This evening is good for seeing close friends in special locations for some fun recreations.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) If you bring that plan you have to the attention of fellow associates and close friends today, they will quickly cooperate to help make it a success. This evening will be good for staying home with your loved ones and relaxing.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Confer with one who understands home decoration today and see how you can make your surroundings brighter and more charming. Later tonight you can go out on the town with close friends and have some fun with them.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Study the amusements you prefer today and then consider them from a different angle so they can be enjoyed. Later this evening you can go out on the town with your mate to some romantic location and have a good time.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Be more generous with your particular kind of praise to your loved ones today and you can have greater accord with them. This evening you can meet with some knowledgeable person and plan how to complete some task.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to Jan. 20) Be more explicit in stating your views with fellow associates who get jittery if not dealt with honestly. This evening you can spend some time with a bigwig who can give you the advice you need for some new project.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Schedule your career activities more intelligently for the days ahead and you find that your bank account grows in a wonderful manner. This evening can be fun if you spend this time with close friends and guest in your home.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Study your amusements well and don't continue with the most expensive today and you will feel happier in the days ahead. You will be able to spend this evening with your loved ones in those activities which will bring harmony.

Birthstone of July: Ruby — Tiger's Eye

## 'Clintonomics'

(Continued from page 8)

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

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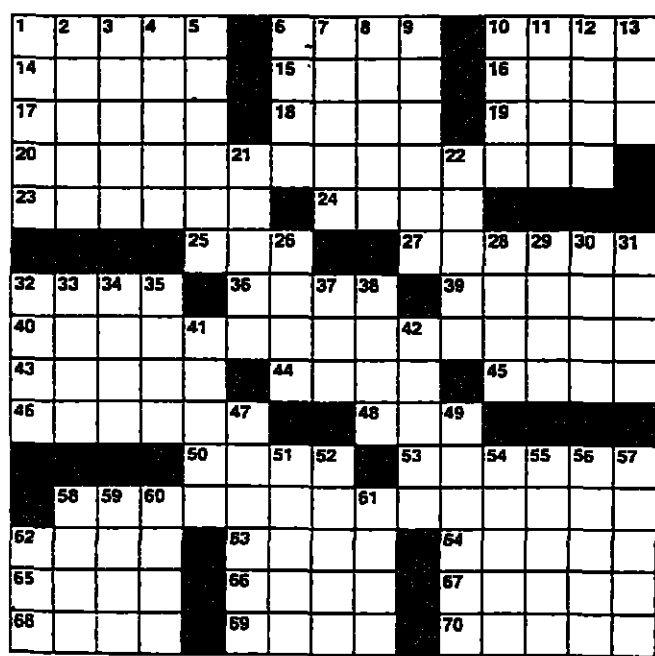
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## THE Daily Crossword by Jay Sullivan

ACROSS

- Plus
- Trevino target
- Loco
- Bring dishonor on
- Surrounded by
- Chills and fever
- Farm machine
- Humorists
- Kind of duck?
- What you need to burn up the course?
- Sex
- Bear strategy
- Tabloid
- Give aid and comfort
- Calaboose
- Penury
- Grieg's land, to Norwegians
- Location of major water hazard?
- "Fried" before a fall
- Heavyweight wrestling
- Had liabilities
- Condition of equilibrium
- Dawn goddess
- Animal org.
- Animal tracks
- Martian putters?
- Conifer
- Understanding words
- Early video game producer
- Galls
- Barne's dog
- Raised (the flag)
- Avian haven
- Golf hazard
- Rotates

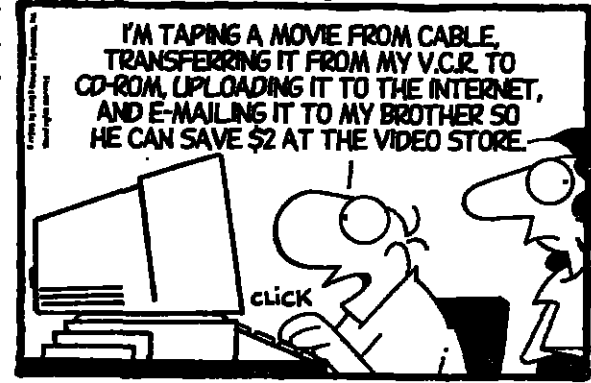


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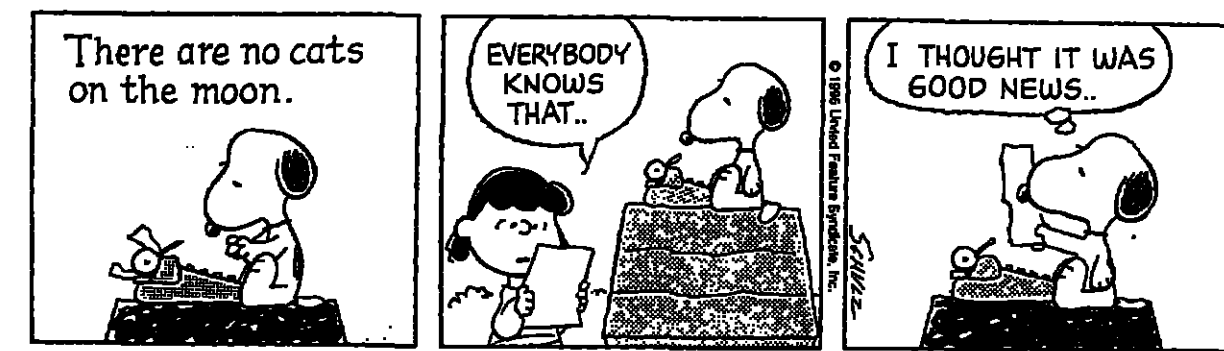
DOWN

- as life
- Portion
- Beauty parlor
- Rectify
- More concise
- Funny girl
- Goddie
- Neglects
- Supple
- Ford follies
- Spanish surrealist
- Gelling agent
- Show resentment
- Ball support
- Middle-Easterner
- Tossed
- Beasts
- Small salmon
- Brag
- Make eyes at
- Marsh grass
- Exercise runs
- Plenty
- Notion
- D-Day craft
- Aussie bird
- Roosevelt coin
- Bridge ancestor
- Lariat loop
- First aid item
- Asparagus stalks
- Composer Franck
- NASA rocket
- Like draft beer
- Musical native
- Summer TV fare
- Uses scissors
- Milanese money
- Signs on the dotted line
- Try
- Glean
- Flag support

## THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## DAJANI JEWELLERS

FOR RENT  
3 shops 8x4 sq.m. with a second floor each in commercial area in Abouja  
An office 150 sq.m. with 2 telephone lines in commercial area in Abouja  
Abouja Real Estate  
Tel: 810605, 810609  
Fax: 810620

## Happy Days

Patisserie  
Cakes & Salads Cafe  
OPEN DAILY FROM 10 A.M. - 1 A.M.  
Tel: 857199  
Fax: 898537  
Umm Uthaina  
Behind San Rock Hotel

STU  
Products  
1 Hour  
Develop  
our day  
• JBL  
also 2K  
• Pro  
mount  
• SHARP  
Bank, 21  
English  
• Radio

OLYMPIA  
SWISS  
• TRAVEL  
• HEALTH  
• BAKING  
• Radio



## 'Clintonomics'

(Continued from page 8)

away from macroeconomic analysis and focus on some specific areas."

He said these could include the fact, demonstrated in recent census bureau numbers, that the income gap between the rich and poor is expanding.

Mr. Dole could also focus on U.S. jobs exported because of trade deficits with countries like China, Mr. Sohn said.

"Dole has to position himself as a free trader, but he could say that we don't have fair trade... That would get some votes from angry white male Americans whose income has been sliding and who have been losing jobs," Mr. Sohn said.

Economist David Wyss at DRI/McGraw Hill, a Lexington, Massachusetts firm, said he disagrees with Mr. Dole's criticism of Mr. Clinton's tax increase. "The problem is government spending, not taxes," Mr. Wyss said.

"Every dollar the government spends has to come out of the economy, either through taxes or borrowing. But borrowing is more harmful, because that comes out of investments," he said.

Republicans do have a point when they argue that Mr. Clinton does not deserve all the credit for the economic expansion under his administration, Mr. Wyss said.

"It looks like a fairly normal recovery except that it is longer than usual, and for that, (Federal Reserve Board Chairman) Alan Greenspan gets more credit than Clinton," Mr. Wyss said.

"Presidents don't have nearly as much to do with economy as they think they do," he said.

## Germany

(Continued from page 8)

iting the recovery of profits, the OECD said.

Noting that the government remains committed to meeting the Maastricht targets for fiscal consolidation, the report said the rise in unemployment seemed likely to contribute to a widening of the general government deficit to 4.0 per cent of GDP this year.

OECD projections put the likely deficit at 3.6 per cent for 1997, 0.6 percentage point above the objective for a single European currency by 1999.

But a number of the measures announced by the government were not incorporated in the current short term forecasts because of what the OECD described as "serious" implementation difficulty.

## Atlanta emerges as the number one hub for 1996

# Passenger traffic surges at world airports

GENEVA (R) — World airports have reported a surge of nearly eight per cent in passenger traffic during the first quarter of this year and Olympic city Atlanta emerged as the number one hub for 1996.

The Geneva-based Airports Council International (ACI) said the figures showed continued healthy growth in the airline business although the volume of cargo moved was up only 3.5 per cent on the first three months of 1995.

The biggest percentage growth, although from a relatively low base, came in the African region, where 6.4 million people passed through airports, 11.6 per cent more than between January and March last

year, according to ACI.

But its manager of statistics, Maria Hinayon, said Europe's gain of 9.4 per cent to a total of just over 145 million passengers was particularly impressive.

Ms. Hinayon said although this was partly due to the impact of heavy pre-Easter traffic, the returns were also boosted by promotional fare packages by several carriers and extra capacity created by new airlines in Spain, Italy and Britain.

The returns from some 460 airports showed that Atlanta, main base for official Olympic carrier Delta Airlines and the troubled airline ValuJet, had taken over as top passenger airport from the long-dominant Chicago O'Hare.

In the first three months just over 15.5 million people — 18 per cent more than during the same period last year — passed through Atlanta, last year's number two, pushing O'Hare with 15.4 million into second place.

"The surge clearly reflects the start-up of traffic for the Olympics," ACI communications manager Jonathan Buck told Reuters. Ms. Hinayon said she expected the effect of the games, from July 19 to Aug. 4, to continue well into the autumn.

London's Heathrow, the world's number three passenger airport in 1995, dropped into fifth place behind Los Angeles in third place and Dallas-Forth Worth in fourth.

Airline industry chiefs have been looking to a steady climb in passenger traffic this year to consolidate the gains, and the return to profits, of the past three years following the recession of the early 1990s.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has reported an "excellent first quarter" on world routes for its 234 members and said it had set them on target for a collective record profit of around \$6 billion.

ACI said the best percentage cargo performance was turned in by the Middle East during the first quarter with a growth of 21.1 per

cent to 422,222 tonnes.

North America remained the strongest cargo region, moving 5.9 million tonnes.

Overall, U.S. airports recorded a total of just under 284 million passengers from January to March, an increase of 7.4 per cent, and Europe was in second place with 145 million, ACI said.

The Asia-Pacific region — which includes Tokyo's Narita, the world's sixth busiest passenger airport — recorded just over 91 million passengers and a growth of 7.1 per cent, and the Middle East surged by 7.9 per cent to 11.5 million.

The laggard was Latin America, which showed growth of only 1.5 per cent, for a total of 18.9 million passengers.

## Jordan Poultry Processing & Marketing Company earns JD8.3 million from sales

\*\* The Jordan Poultry Processing & Marketing Company boosted sales by 62 per cent as it earned a total of JD 8.3 million in 1995. The company's annual report said that necessary changes were made to production lines and to develop the plant for waste disposal. In addition a decision has been taken to build refrigerated warehouses, with a 1,000-tonne capacity, at the Al Diail slaughterhouse compound. The report indicated that the company faced stiff price competition in the markets and that the amount of fresh chicken sold was about 27.3 per cent of the total 6.671 tonnes sold. The company generated a JD 117,300 net profit last year and consequently the accumulated loss of previous years was reduced by 13 per cent to become JD 369,000. At the end of 1995, the company had JD 2.2 million of current assets of which 79.5 per cent were "product inventory." Current liabilities declined by JD 668,000 and net shareholders' equity amounted to JD 4.7 million. The company capitalised at JD 5.04 million, was set up in 1987 (Al Aswag).

## AL CATEL and not Siemens

\*\* CHRISTIAN PONSOT, the economic and commercial councillor at the French embassy in Amman called the Jordan Times Sunday to point out that the French company AL CATEL CIT, and not Siemens, was the contractor that supplied and installed the telephone exchange at Tlaa Al Ali. A fax received from Mr. Ponsot Monday explained that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and the French company have signed a contract for the project on March 1, 1995 and that the job included also the supply and the installation of the necessary transmission network needed for the project and the local outside plant related to the subscribers. Out of the total contract value, 52 million French francs were provided under the French protocol signed on Feb. 23, 1995.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET									
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDANIAN									
TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179									
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 01/07/1996									
LAST 12 MONTHS	COMPANY'S NAME	P/E	DIV.	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF TRADING	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE	
3.800	2.200	BANK OF JORDAN	12.5	0.00	1	50	160	3.20	-
1.380	1.010	KID. PNT. INV. CO.	66.3	0.00	2	55400	53204	1.01	0.01
2.700	2.120	INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK.	4.9	6.57	1	1500	2180	2.12	-
8.300	4.250	THE HOUSING BK.	11.5	3.21	3	900	3870	4.30	-
3.040	2.600	JOR. KIBRAIT BANK	19.8	0.00	2	100	320	2.75	-
1.110	900	JOR. GULF BANK	5.5	7.53	10	17314	16056	8.5	-0.2
4.200	3.300	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	26.0	0.00	8	1850	8815	3.74	-
4.570	1.700	UNION BK. INV. INV.	9	0.00	3	1000	1781	1.75	-0.4
4.300	1.210	JOR. INV. INV. BANK	10.7	0.00	2	641	1215	3.21	-0.4
3.850	2.420	BEIT AL-KAL (BEITINA)	1.6	5.88	3	350	898	2.60	-0.2
1.160	1.280	AMMAN BANK INV.	9	0.00	27	9250	3335	-39	-0.1
1.740	1.600	PHILADEL. INV. BK.	9	0.00	25	7050	7314	1.06	-0.2
BANK SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 172.33 CHG: -0.08									
3.200	2.600	JORDAN GULF INSUR.	6.7	4.94	2	25247	75993	3.01	-
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 115.55 CHG: 0.00									
1.900	1.450	JOR. ELECTRIC PHN.	10.4	8.00	29	17294	28213	1.40	-0.2
6.050	4.650	AMMAN TEL. MODELS	17.0	3.00	5	5825	24116	5.00	-
2.960	2.300	SULFING LITE	9.4	8.37	8	1450	3249	2.28	-0.5
2.450	1.190	KATI. PORTFOLIO	9	0.00	6	1706	2068	1.24	-0.1
1.160	900	REAL ESTATE INV.	20.9	3.38	9	7300	8808	-95	-0.1
3.660	3.090	AMM. TRV. INV. EDUC.	12.7	6.26	6	48015	15502	3.15	-0.5
1.450	980	SARAA EDUCATION	2.7	0.00	3	1350	1373	1.00	-0.2
2.900	1.870	UNIFIED CO.	10.1	5.24	1	100	191	1.94	-0.3
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 112.64 CHG: -0.35									
3.260	1.170	ATTAHER	0.00	0.00	3	1300	4128	1.25	-
3.030	2.240	JOR. CONCRET FACT.	18.1	3.16	16	6932	22180	1.25	-0.9
5.960	4.750	ARAB FUEL CO.	26.3	3.70	4	1000	8400	5.95	-0.15
10.560	8.800	JOR. PETROL. REFINERY	9.2	8.84	11	1750	15901	9.05	-
1.890	1.200	WOLFE INDUSTRIES	52.4	0.00	2	1150	1177	1.24	-0.1
5.300	3.330	ARAB PHARM. IND.	18.8	5.85	18	5500	18850	3.42	-0.2
6.650	5.700	JOR. CERAMIC IND.	7.1	4.39	4	2500	14250	5.75	-0.8
2.100	4.850	JO. ALUMIN. IND.	11.9	4.26	2	200	1410	4.90	-0.2
5.900	3.180	ARAB ALUM. IND.	5.4	11.59	11	2700	9228	3.55	-0.3
1.740	1.450	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	9	0.00	41	115200	56264	-63	-0.2
1.900	1.150	ARAB PAPER IND. TRD.	7.9	8.37	12	3250	1888	1.18	-0.2
1.750	780	NATIONAL IND.	11.0	8.11	11	4000	2990	-78	-0.4
2.460	1.060	INTERMED. PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	17	4150	4881	1.19	-0.1
1.690	900	JOR. SULPHON. CHEM.	9	0.00	5	2380	2108	-90	-0.1
1.300	1.050	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	25.8	0.00	29	1310	18104	1.42	-0.6
3.450	2.180	UNIV. MED. IND.	6.6	9.26	8	6700	14492	2.19	-0.3
2.250	1.380	JOR. INDUS. RESOURCES	17.1	0.00	32	10092	13832	1.41	-0.5
1.980	1.000	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	28.2	0.00	43	18110	26885	3.08	-0.4
2.680	2.750	EL-KAY READY MIX	9	0.00	1	280	443	-1.78	-0.7
1.330	1.110	INTL. TOBACCO	27.3	0.00	12	6750	7868	1.19	-0.3
2.480	1.110	UNION CH. & VEG.	30.1	0.00	8	4850	9516	1.22	-0.2
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 108.65 CHG: -1.96									
1.900	1.150	ARAB PAPER IND. TRD.	7.9	8.37	12	3250	1888	1.18	-0.2
1.750	780	NATIONAL IND.	11.0	8.11	11	4000	2990	-78	-0.4
2.460	1.060	INTERMED. PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	17	4150	4881	1.19	-0.1
1.690	900	JOR. SULPHON. CHEM.	9	0.00	5	2380	2108	-90	-0.1
1.300	1.050	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	25.8	0.00	29	1310	18104	1.42	-0.6
3.450	2.180	UNIV. MED. IND.	6.6	9.26	8	6700	14492	2.19	-0.3
2.250	1.380	JOR. INDUS. RESOURCES	17.1	0.00	32	10092	13832	1.41	-0.5
1.980	1.000	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	28.2	0.00	43	18110	26885	3.08	-0.4
2.680	2.750	EL-KAY READY MIX	9	0.00	1	280	443	-1.78	-0.7
1.330	1.110	INTL. TOBACCO	27.3	0.00	12	6750	7868	1.19	-0.3
2.480	1.110	UNION CH. & VEG.	30.1	0.00	8	4850	9516	1.22	-0.2
GRAND TOTAL INDEX: 140.20 CHG: -0.87									
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 01/07/1996									
1.830	1.860	JOR. TRADE PAC.	7.6	0.00	8	114000	78240	-66	-0.4
1.000	720	UNION INV. CO.	70.8	0.00	12	10800	2892	-74	-0.4
1.260	620	ARAB FIN. INV. CO.	9	0.00	4	1000	420	-64	-0.3
1.680	340	JOR. TRD. PAC. TRD.	9	0.00	2	750	375	-51	-0.2
1.902	1.380	KATI. CHLORINE	9	0.00	6	1750	2558	1.47	-0.4
1.750	520	ARAB INV. INV. TRD.	9	0.00	7	4350	2454	-64	-0.1
1.540	580	JO. ALUMIN. IND.	11.9	4.26	2	200	1410	4.90	-0.2
2.250	690	JO. ALUMIN. IND.	11.9	4.26	2	200	1410	4.90	-0.2
1.200	800	JORDAN STEEL	9	0.00	15	5823	4805	-82	-0.2
1.840	510	ARAB ELECT. IND.	9	0.00	1	200	290	-11	-0.3
1.300	1.100	JO. ALUMIN. IND.	11.9	4.26	2	200	1410	4.90	-0.2
1.030	640	RAZI PHARM. 651	9	0.00	3	1000	324	-68	-0.6
1.910	830	CHES. IND.	32.7	0.00	3	1250	663	-82	-0.3
1.820	830	CHES. IND.	32.7	0.00	3	1250	663	-82	-0.3
1.050	420	1. TEKEL. IND.	9	0.00	4	94	28	-41	-0.2
1.020	880	PEKAR. NAM. P. CO.	9	0.00	1	80	36	-68	-0.6
1.870	400	WAT. WASTE TR.	9	0.00	1	1100	4948	-69	-0.2
1.500	990	M.S. EAST COMPLEX	6.9	0.00	10	13360	7291	-61	-0.2
GRAND TOTAL INDEX: 87 174075 108904									

## REUTERS REUTERS

The Business of Information The Business of Information

# Major Currencies & Cross Rates

Currency	USD	DEM	GBP	CHF	JPY	CAD	ITL	NLG	FRF
US Dollar	1.5332	0.6428	1.2495	109.56	134.30	153.79	1.7081	5.1514	
DE Mark	0.6565		0.4215	0.8204	70.72	8.944	1.0657	3.3819	
GB Sterling	1.5558	1.5558		1.9335	170.53	2.1206	2.3852	2.6578	8.0156
CH Franc	0.8903	121.80	0.5135		67.67	1.0891	1.2514	1.7671	4.1194
JP Yen	0.0091	1.3900	0.5860	1.1402		1.2436	13.99	155.8500	4.7008
CA Dollar	0.7331	3.1173	0.7271	0.9196	70.72		1.1241	0.9375	3.7779
IT Lira	0.0007	0.9531	0.4187	0.0615	1401.35	0.8885		11.13	3.388
NL Guilder	0.2885	89.12	0.3758	13.32	54.08	0.9775	0.7932		3.0145
FR Franc	0.1941	0.2956	0.1246	24.2458	21.24	0.2644	33.14	33.1400	

## Energy

Oil	Last	Previous
Brent	19.80	19.45
WTI	21.32	20.90
Italy	19.80	19.45
Dubai	17.65	17.35
UL Gas	194.00	188.00

## Mid-East Currencies

Currency	USD	DEM	GBP	CHF	JPY
SA Riyal	0.2666	0.4063	0.17138	0.33349	29.2235
AE Dirham	0.2733	0.4149	0.1735	0.34052	29.2401
KW Dinar	3.3367	5.06388	2.14454	4.17362	365.764
EH Dirham	0.2770	0.41679	0.17357	0.33775	29.2406
CY Pound	2.127	3.2401	1.366	2.658	232.38

## Metal Prices

Metal	Bid	Offer
Gold (oz's)	382	382.5
Silver (oz's)	5.08	5.1
Platinum (oz's)	392	393
Al (3 Months)	1493	1496
CU (3 Months)	1850	1860
Zn (3 Months)	1028	1029
Lead (3 Months)	786	790
Ni (3 Months)	7600	7630

## Currency Deposit Rates (Bid)

Period	1 - Month	3 - Months	6 - Months	9 - Months	1 - Year
Cncy	Months	Months	Months	Months	Year
USD	5.34	5.44	5.67	5.75	5.87
GBP	4.41	4.58	4.90	5.03	5.06
JPY	0.31	0.56	0.62	0.76	0.87
DEM	1.15	3.15	3.25	3.35	3.50
FRF	2.76	3.74	3.87	3.96	4.09
CHF	2.31	2.50	2.67	2.82	2.90
ITL	9.09	8.40	8.27	8.17	8.10

## Main Equity Indices

Bourse	Index	Value	Low	High	Pt Chg	% Chg	Clng
New York	DOW JONES	5622.7	5653.80	5699.35	5554.03	0.5	18.07
New York	S&P 500	251.10	250.95	251.25	250.85	0.3	2.1
London	FT-SE 100	6164.00	6164.00	6164.00	6164.00	0.0	0.0
Tel Aviv	NISX 25	2233.50	2233.50	2233.50	2233.50	0.0	0.0
Paris	CAC 40	2118.75	2110.25	2120.58	2123.7	0.23	-4.95
Frankfurt	DAX	2224.50	2224.50	2224.50	2224.50	0.0	0.0

## Energy

Commodity	Last	Delivery
Coffee (c/lbs)	130.33	Spot
Sugar (c/lbs)	21.24	Spot
Sugar (mt/ton)	196.9	Spot
Soybean (c/lbs)	21.22	Spot
Soybean (mt/ton)	24.37	Spot
Wheat (c/lbs)	21.12	Spot
Barley (c/lbs)	4.04	Spot
Rice (c/lbs)	2.22	Spot

## \* JOD Cross Rates

Currency	Buy	Sell
US Dollar	0.708	0.710
DE Mark	0.464	0.465
FR Franc	0.1372	0.1379
JP Yen	0.0082	0.0084
NL Guilder	0.4137	0.4158
SA Riyal	0.2666	0.2685

\* Source: Central Bank of Jordan.



## Graf express slowed down by rain at Wimbledon

LONDON (AFP) — Rain slowed down but could not stop Steffi Graf, who once again had her left knee taped, becoming the first player to reach the quarter-finals of the women's singles at Wimbledon Monday.

The 27-year-old defending champion, who is chasing a seventh Wimbledon singles crown, settled an old score with Swiss teenager Martina Hingis by completing a 6-1, 6-4 victory on the Centre-Court and then played a warm tribute to the player responsible for her only tournament defeat this year.

"She has a lot of talent and she has really improved," said Graf, who nearly dropped out of this year's Wimbledon after straining her knee in an exhibition event in Prague and who was beaten by Hingis in the quarter-finals of the Italian Open.

"It's looking a long way ahead — but I think she may well become one of the world's top players," she added.

Graf, who now plays either the sixth-seeded Jana Novotna or the Czech Republic or Cambodian-born Patricia Hy-Boulais of Canada,

### Rain disrupts fourth round

LONDON (R) — Intermittent rain disrupted the early stages of the fourth round singles matches at Wimbledon on Monday.

After a mainly sunny morning, a short shower delayed the start of play on all the outside courts for an hour until 12:00 GMT when the centre and number one court matches also began.

But after barely 20 minutes, another brief shower sent the players off court and the surfaces were quickly covered.

With sporadic rain forecast all day — and for most of the week — organisers faced an awkward time completing the fourth round schedule.

Also scotched reports of a rift with nine-times Wimbledon singles champion Martina Navratilova.

Navratilova, 39, commenting on the championships for the American HBO network, said of Graf's knee strain: "That knee injury is just an excuse ahead of time in case she needs it."

"If you read the newspapers you'd think she belongs in hospital. But if you look at her on court she is running like a gazelle. She could run the quarter-mile at the Olympics." (See separate story).

On a day when the grounds staff proved their fitness by covering and uncovering the courts between showers and sunshine, the German champion, who is bidding for a seventh Wimbledon singles crown, pocketed the first set in just 21 minutes.

The 15-year-old, 16th seeded Hingis produced more of a fight after the second rain break — finding more depth with her ground strokes and running down several Graf winners — but Graf finished with a flurry, thumping down two aces.

Sanchez-Vicario, who was beaten by Graf in the 1995 final, looked to be struggling at the start of her fourth-round clash against Sabine Appelmans of Belgium — but she battled back to a 3-6, 6-2, 6-1 victory.

## Navratilova says Graf is faking injury

LONDON (R) — Tennis veteran Martina Navratilova on Monday accused world number one Steffi Graf of faking a knee injury.

"Steffi Graf could run in the quarter-mile at the Olympics. The knee injury is just an excuse ahead of time in case she needs it," said the nine-times Wimbledon singles champion.

Navratilova, who is commenting at Wimbledon for the American HBO Television Network, told viewers: "If you read the newspapers you'd think she belongs in hospital. If you look at her today she's running like a gazelle."

Navratilova and Graf were due to play in the women's doubles at Wimbledon together last year, but the German pulled out for fear of overstraining her back.

Navratilova, 39, is playing in the mixed doubles with Jonathan Stark, who partnered her to the title last year. A win again this year will give Navratilova her 20th Wimbledon title, equalling Billie Jean King's record.

Graf, the favourite to win her sixth Wimbledon singles title, pulled out of a British tournament at Eastbourne last month because of a left knee injury incurred during practice.

## Pierce learning to 'win pretty'

LONDON (R) — Mary Pierce, often a model of inconsistency, has this year become more famous for her French dressing than her tennis.

But now the mercurial star whose black cocktail-style dress caused such a sensation at the French Open is learning to love grass and have fun at Wimbledon.

Pierce is the latest protégé of tennis guru Brad Gilbert, whose book "Winning Ugly" teaches how to get the mental approach right. She is bucking the trend and learning to "win pretty."

Gilbert suffered a bitter blow last week when his most famous pupil, millionaire superstar Andre Agassi, crashed out in the first round.

But Pierce has surprised her critics by getting to grips with grass and winning a place in the fourth round of the world's most famous tennis tournament, albeit with an undemanding draw.

It is a welcome return to form for the 1995 Australian Open winner who has earned \$2 million in his seven-year career but who has not won a title since then.

Sympathy for the out-of-form Agassi abounded. "I felt bad for him," she said. "I try to cheer him on and he does the same for me. I get tips from him more than he probably does from me."

Their fashion sense could not be more different. Agassi opts for the Sloppy Joe meets blackbeard the pirate look. Pierce chooses the elegant, queen of the court approach.

Careful not to fall foul of Wimbledon's much stricter dress code, Pierce has opted here for a white outfit with blue trimmings and looks like a crisply efficient nurse.

But doesn't she get sick of all the questions about what she is going to wear next? "No. If it's not negative, then it doesn't hurt at all."

## Angels score only run against A's on wild pitch

ANAHEIM (R) — This time it wasn't the long ball, it was the wild pitch.

Ryan Hancock and two relievers threw a five-hit shutout and Randy Velarde scored from second on a wild pitch in the first inning for the game's only run as the California Angels avoided a four-game sweep by blanking the Oakland Athletics 1-0 Sunday.

Hancock (4-0) scattered four hits and three walks over seven innings. Mike James got into trouble in the eighth, but Troy Percival worked out of it and pitched a perfect ninth for his 22nd save.

"Sometimes, it's easier to pitch in a game like this because you get into a rhythm, but I would've liked to have more of a cushion," said Hancock.

Velarde singled in the bottom of the first, extending his hitting streak to a career-high 17 games, the longest active streak in the American League.

He advanced to second on a groundout by Garret Anderson. Tim Salmon struck out, but the ball got away from catcher George Williams and rolled toward the first base dugout as Velarde scrambled home without a play at the plate.

"You have to anticipate with two strikes and two out, you're going on the pitch," said Velarde. "When I turned third, I saw no one covering the plate, so I went on my own. That's an instinct play, you can't teach that."



Los Angeles Dodgers' starting pitcher Hideo Nomo winds up against the Colorado Rockies during his fifth and last inning, June 30 in Denver. Nomo, in a no-decision appearance, pitched five innings and gave up nine hits and nine runs as the Dodgers lost to the Rockies 16-15 (Reuters photo)

The Athletics had tied a major-league record by hitting 18 homers in their previous four games. They hit 16 homers and scored 35 runs in the first three games of this series. Oakland also had a seven-game road winning streak snapped.

John Wadlin (5-2) pitched his first career complete game, giving up one run and four hits.

In Chicago, Orel Hershisier allowed an unearned run over eight innings and Sandy Alomar homered in a three-run fifth as the Cleveland Indians defeated the white sox 4-2.

In New York, David Wells pitched a four-hitter for his first victory in six road games this season and Brady Anderson hit his major league-leading 27th homer to lead the Baltimore Orioles to a 9-1 victory over the Yankees.

Roberto Alomar added a solo homer for the orioles, who split the four-game series with the first-place Yankees. Baltimore won for just the third time in its last eight games.

Wells (5-8) got his 13th

win in 17 career decisions against New York. He allowed just one run — a solo homer by Bernie Williams. Ramiro Mendoza (3-4) took the loss.

In Seattle, Edgar Martinez had three hits and an RBI as the Mariners beat the Texas Rangers 4-3 in the rubber game of a three-game set between the top two teams in the AL West.

Sterling Hitchcock (7-3) pitched 6 2/3 innings and allowed three runs and six hits. Bobby Ayala pitched 1

1/3 innings and Norm Charlton escaped the ninth with his 13th save.

Seattle pulled within five games of the Rangers in the AL West. The Mariners have won 16 of their last 19 games against Texas at home and 24 of 30 against them overall.

In Boston, Reggie Jefferson homered twice and Troy O'Leary added a bases-loaded triple as the Red Sox got their third straight win, 9-4 over the Detroit Tigers.

All eight of Jefferson's home runs have come at Fenway Park, where he is hitting .434.

Tom Gordon (6-4) won for the first time since May 30, allowing four runs and six hits in 6 2/3 innings before leaving with a blister on his right index finger.

In Kansas City, Frank Rodriguez won his third straight start and Matt Lawton hit his first career Grand Slam in the Minnesota Twins' 5-2 victory over the Royals.

Rodriguez (8-7) gave up two runs and five hits in 7 1/3 innings with a walk and five strikeouts. He retired the first 13 batters before Michael Tucker's one-out double in the fifth. Dave Stevens pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Lawton's slam, his second major-league home run, came off Kansas City starter Mark Gubicza (4-12), who lost his sixth straight despite pitching his second complete game.

## Rockies beat Dodgers in longest nine-inning NL game

DENVER (R) — Ten home runs, a stolen base record, and the longest nine-inning game in National League history — this was a wild one.

Quinton McCracken's two-out RBI double in the bottom of the ninth finally ended it, giving the Colorado Rockies a 16-15 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers Sunday.

The game lasted four hours and 20 minutes, eclipsing the previous mark set by the Dodgers and Giants on October 2, 1962. It was just one minute short of the Major League record, set on April 30 by the Orioles and Yankees.

Rockies second baseman Eric Young tied a modern-era record with six stolen bases. He swiped his way around the bases in the third inning and added steals of second in the fourth, fifth and eighth, tying the mark shared by Otis Nixon (1991) and Eddie Collins (twice in 1912).

"The guys told me when I was at five that I needed two more for a (new) record so I was aware of it," Young said. "I think this was the most I have ever stolen in the past. I had just enough to get six."

The Rockies stole a team-record 10 bases, nine against starter Hideo Nomo. The game also saw eight unearned runs against five Dodger pitchers.

Raul Mondesi's two-out, two-run homer in the top of the ninth capped a three-run rally and put the Dodgers up 15-14.

But Colorado rallied to tie the game on singles by Dante Bichette, Vinny Castilla and Jeff Reed.

Then with runners on first and second, McCracken hit the first pitch he saw from closer Todd Worrell (3-4) down the right-field line for the game-winning home run.

Bichette had his first five-hit game. His four RBI pushed his league-leading total to 80. He had 39 RBI in June.

John Vanderwal's two-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the eighth gave the Rockies a 14-12 lead.

Bichette, Vinny Castilla and Ellis Burks also homered for Colorado.

Bruce Ruffin (3-2), Colorado's sixth pitcher, got the win despite serving up Mondesi's homer and suffering his third blown save. He gave up three runs on three hits in the ninth.

Mike Piazza, Eric Karros and Mondesi homered on consecutive pitches in the third for Los Angeles.

Karros and Mondesi homered twice and Todd Hollandsworth also homered for the Dodgers, who have hit 12 homers in their last two games, one shy of the Major-League record.

In Miami, Jeff Blauser's two-run homer capped a three-run seventh inning as

the Atlanta Braves rallied to post a 5-4 victory over the Florida Marlins.

Brad Clontz (5-2) picked up the win after pitching the sixth inning. Greg McMichael worked a scoreless seventh and eighth and Mark Wohlers came on to pitch the ninth and register his 17th save.

John Burkett (5-8) took the loss for Florida, which had a five-game win streak halted.

In Philadelphia, pinch-hitter Cliff Floyd's three-run homer with two out in the top of the ninth off closer Rickey Bottolico lifted the Montreal Expos past the Phillies 6-5 in the rubber game of a three-game series.

The Expos won their sixth consecutive series.

Montreal won for the 11th time in its last 16 games and has come from behind for 18 victories after the sixth inning. They have five ninth-inning comebacks this season.

Mike Lieberthal hit a two-run homer for the Phils.

In San Francisco, Ken Caminiti homered and drove in three runs and Bob Tewksbury won for the first time in more than six weeks as the San Diego Padres completed a four-game sweep and handed the giants their 10th straight loss, 7-4.

Caminiti and Steve Finley homered on consecutive pitches in the first inning.

Tewksbury (6-5) broke a personal four-game losing streak with his first win since May 12.

William Vanlandingham (4-9) was shelled for six runs and 12 hits in 3 2/3 innings and remained winless since June 3.

In Cincinnati, Steve Trachsel (7-4), and two relievers combined on a four-hitter and Ryne Sandberg and Luis Gonzalez each drove in two runs as the Chicago Cubs snapped the Reds' seven-game winning streak with a 6-0 blanking.

Trachsel has not allowed a run in his last 16 innings and lowered his era to 2.00, just .11 behind Florida's Kevin Brown for the Major-League lead.

In Houston, Darryl Kile tossed a six-hitter for his first win in more than a month and John Cangelosi reached base four times, stole three bases and drove in three runs to lead the Astros to a 9-3 victory over the New York Mets in the rubber game of a three-game series.

Kile (7-5), who no-hit the Mets in 1993, held New York without a hit through four innings as the Astros built a 6-0 lead against Mets starter Jason Istringhausen (4-10).

In St. Louis, Ron Gant homered and drove in three runs and Todd Stottlemyre (7-6) pitched six strong innings and went 3-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored as the Cardinals routed the Pittsburgh Pirates 10-3 for a sweep of their three-game series.

**Q. 1 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold.**

44 ♠AK532 ♠Q108 ♠KQ10

The bidding has proceeded: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass What action do you take?

A - This is no April Fool prank. North's redouble confirmed your ace owns the hand, so partner's subsequent pass is forcing — you must either double or bid. Since your two-heart rebid showed a six-card suit and an unwillingness to defend a spade contract, you cannot bid the same values again by going on to five hearts — needing no more than what you hold, partner would have bid five hearts. Double.

**Q. 2 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold.**

4AK64 ♠73 ♠A4K64

The bidding has proceeded: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass 5♣ Pass What action do you take?

A - While two aces and two kings improve your count, the fact that you don't have a major-suit fit, or a source of tricks, means that chances the hand will stretch to game are negligible. Pass.

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**WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ ANSWERS**

**Q. 3 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:**

4A764 ♣J108 ♠A8762

The bidding has proceeded: WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass What do you bid now?

A - A raise to two hearts is a gross underbid. If you play that a cue-bid of the enemy suit confirms a fit with limit-raised values, by all means bid two diamonds. If not, make an invitational jump to three hearts.

**Q. 4 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**

4K10542 ♣8 ♠K983 AS42

The bidding has proceeded: NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass What do you bid now?

A - Had there been no double, you would have jumped to four spades, and we see no reason not to make the same bid now. Adherence of the Law of Total Tricks will endorse this decision since you belong at the four-level with 10 tricks in the combined hand.

**Q. 5 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:**

4Q6 ♠3 ♠AJ64 ♠KQ83

The bidding has proceeded: NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass What do you bid now?

A - Partner has described a hand worth some 18 points with a singleton diamond. All your cards, with the exception of the jack of diamonds, are working, and to bid anything less than six clubs would be an act of cowardice.

**Q. 6 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**

4K85 ♠AK9854 ♠8 ♠QJ8

The bidding has proceeded: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass What do you bid now?

A - Obviously, the choices are two no trump or three hearts. Since you have already rebid your hearts (although that does not promise a six-card suit in this sequence), we slightly prefer showing the club stopper by bidding two no trump. That will give partner more options on the third round.

<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p>John Travolta and Gene Hackman...in <b>Get Shorty</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>FLORIDA</b></p> <p>Layla Alawi...in <b>Ya Dunya Ya Gharami</b> (Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>CONCORD "1" * Abu Al Dahab (Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30</p> <p>CONCORD "2" * Specialist</p> <p>Show: 6:15, 10:30</p> <p>* Taht Night</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 8:30</p>	<p><b>Mahmoud Theatre &amp; Cinema</b></p> <p>Will Shortly present Zawad Weld Awad theatre group in a play entitled <b>Five-Star Government</b></p> <p>Starring comedians: Mahmoud Saimeh &amp; Hussein Tubelshat</p>	<p><b>Nabil &amp; Hisham's Theatre</b></p> <p>PRESENTS <b>THE SATIRICAL COMEDY Arab Human Rights</b> at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call 625155 - 640155</p>
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## Sports

**U.S. Soccer League Rapids deal C first loss of season**

SEATTLE (R) — The Los Angeles Galaxy Major League Soccer, started off its season, dropping a 2-1 decision to the Colorado Rapids Sunday.

Seattle pulled within five games of the Rangers in the AL West. The Mariners have won 16 of their last 19 games against Texas at home and 24 of 30 against them overall.

In Boston, Reggie Jefferson homered twice and Troy O'Leary added a bases-loaded triple as the Red Sox got their third straight win, 9-4 over the Detroit Tigers.

All eight of Jefferson's home runs have come at Fenway Park, where he is hitting .434.

Tom Gordon (6-4) won for the first time since May 30, allowing four runs and six hits in 6 2/3 innings before leaving with a blister on his right index finger.

In Kansas City, Frank Rodriguez won his third straight start and Matt Lawton hit his first career Grand Slam in the Minnesota Twins' 5-2 victory over the Royals.

Rodriguez (8-7) gave up two runs and five hits in 7 1/3 innings with a walk and five strikeouts. He retired the first 13 batters before Michael Tucker's one-out double in the fifth. Dave Stevens pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Lawton's slam, his second major-league home run, came off Kansas City starter Mark Gubicza (4-12), who lost his sixth straight despite pitching his second complete game.

In Toronto, Joe Carter's three-run homer highlighted a six-run sixth inning as the Blue Jays routed the Milwaukee Brewers 15-2.

Erik Hanson (8-9) got his second straight win after a three-game losing streak. Toronto snapped a three-game skid.

Otis Nixon had three hits and scored three runs while Carter and John Olerud each had two hits and three RBIs for the Jays, who tied a season high with 17 hits. Alex Gonzalez collected three hits and drove in two runs and Carlos Delgado hit a two-run homer and scored three times.

**Tour de France Moncassin dramatic sprint**

EN BOSCH, Netherlands (R) — P. Moncassin won a dramatic sprint to take the 1996 Tour de France Sunday.

Moncassin, who had never won a Tour before, edged out Dutchman Jeroen Blijlevens in a final 500-metre sprint.

The 27-year-old from Toulouse recovered from a crash in the final 100 metres to beat Blijlevens and Cipollini, but it was a sprint to the line.

Moncassin, who came fourth in the 1995 Tour, was the favourite to win, but he didn't see who it was, he was too focused on winning.

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## U.S. Soccer League Rapids deal Galaxy first loss of season

DENVER (R) — The Los Angeles Galaxy, runaway leaders in Major League Soccer, tasted defeat for the first time this season, dropping a 2-1 decision to the last-place Colorado Rapids Sunday.

U.S. international forward Roy Wegerle scored the first goal and created Shaun Bartlett's score for Colorado (6-9), who handed the Western Conference-leading Galaxy their first loss after 12 consecutive victories.

Wegerle tallied in the 36th minute and set up Bartlett's sixth goal in the 56th against Mexican goalkeeper Jorge Campos before Brad Wilson pulled one back for the Galaxy in the 78th minute.

Former England international goalkeeper Chris Woods made five saves for the Rapids.

Los Angeles had defeated Colorado 3-1 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, on Wednesday as Ecuadorian Eduardo Hurtado became the first MLS player to record two hat-tricks. Hurtado leads the league with 11 goals.

U.S. international striker Eric Wynalda scored two goals and assisted on a third as the San Jose Clash (8-7) climbed into second place and moved within 10 points of Los Angeles with a 4-0 victory over the Eastern Conference leaders, the Tampa Bay Mutiny (8-6), in San Jose.

Paul Bravo and Miguel Espinosa also tallied for San Jose, which won its third straight game.

The New York/New Jersey Metrostars (7-8), who started the week in last place in the Eastern Conference, climbed within a point of second-place D.C. United with a pair of wins.

Italian midfielder Roberto Donadoni masterminded a 2-0 triumph over the Kansas City Wiz as Giovanni Savarese netted his 10th goal and U.S. international midfielder Tab Ramos his first in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Donadoni, however, did not play in the 4-0 romp over the host Columbus Crew Sunday because he was allowed to return home to Italy to rest after a hectic schedule that included the European Championship in England. He is expected back for the July 10 home match against the Dallas Burn.

Italian Nicola Caricola, Chris Unger, Savarese and Ramos scored as former U.S. World Cup captain and goalkeeper Tony Meola recorded a shutout to take the league lead with five.

U.S. national team captain John Harkes created the go-ahead goal and converted a penalty kick for an insurance goal as United (6-9) snapped a two-game losing streak and handed the New England Revolution (8-9) their third successive loss in Washington, D.C., 3-1.

After teammate Steve Rammel and Argentine Alberto Naveda traded goals, El Salvadoran Raul Diaz Arce of United scored his ninth goal with eight minutes left to break a 1-1 tie. Mike Sorber's goal in the 39th was all the wiz (8-9) needed en route to a 1-0 win over the Dallas Burn (9-7) in a game played in 104-degree Fahrenheit (40 Celsius) heat in Dallas.

## Tour de France Moncassin wins dramatic sprint

DEN BOSCH, Netherlands (R) — Frenchman Frederic Moncassin won a dramatic sprint to take the first stage of the Tour de France cycle race Sunday.

Moncassin, who had never won a Tour stage before, was blocked by Italian Mario Cipollini and narrowly avoided colliding into Dutchman Jeroen Blijlevens as a pack of riders fought out the final few hundred metres.

The 27-year-old from Toulouse recovered to cross the line ahead of Blijlevens and Cipollini, but the Italian was later relegated for sprinting "irregularly."

Czech Jan Svoboda, who came fourth, was awarded third place and Cipollini placed 37th and last of the leading group.

"It's the greatest win of my career," said Moncassin, who was seventh with 300 metres remaining in the day's flat, 209-km ride around the Dutch city of Den Bosch. "Somebody did block me but I didn't see who it was," he added.

The race favourites, including Spaniard Miguel Indurain, bidding for a record sixth tour win, did not take part in the big sprint, coming home safely within the pack.

Switzerland's Alex Zülle, regarded as the man most capable of depriving mighty Indurain, retained the race leader's yellow jersey he earned by winning Saturday's rain-soaked prologue.

Briton Chris Boardman, Moncassin's teammate in the Gan stable, ended 55th, 15 seconds back, and lost the green jersey he had won by taking second place in the prologue.

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German soccer fans celebrate the victory of the German soccer team over the Czech Republic on Munich's boulevard Leopoldstrasse after Germany won the Euro soccer final 2-1, while Czech fans (right) show their disappointment as they watch the extra time goal by Oliver Bierhoff that won the Germans the championship at Wembley Stadium. (Reuters photo)



## Euro 96 leaves Germans euphoric, Czechs stunned

LONDON (R) —

Germany was in a state of euphoria after Oliver Bierhoff scored the "golden goal" that clinched the 2-1 sudden-death victory over the Czech Republic in the Euro 96 soccer final Sunday night.

Supporters across the country danced in the streets and waved national flags. Police said around 4,000 had gathered on the Kurfuertendamm, Berlin's main street, to celebrate.

An estimated 30,000 Czechs who filled Prague's cobblestone old town square to watch the final on six giant television screens were stunned by Bierhoff's extra time decider.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who attended the final at London's Wembley Stadium, led the tributes to his country's soccer heroes.

"They stood their ground, they showed fighting spirit and they showed team spirit. Those are all great virtues," he told German television after congratulating the players.

"I'd like to celebrate all night but I have to go to school tomorrow," said 18-year old Caroline

Ruegler, proudly displaying a German flag she had painted on her face, as she joined an impromptu street party in central Bonn.

Hundreds of fans nearby blocked the road, set off fireworks and chanted, "It's all over." In Frankfurt, Germany's financial capital, stocks and shares took second place to soccer after the city set up giant screens on one of its main streets to let fans see the game.

"It's a great feeling. I'm very proud," said marketing executive Martin Kneppers, brandishing a bottle of champagne. "I'm not normally a big soccer fan but this is something else."

Thousands of fans were also out in force in Munich, heading for the city's famous triumphal arch in celebration.

Hundreds packed into Berlin's Traenenpalast ("palace of tears") concert hall to watch the game on giant video screens.

The hall was the scene of many a poignant farewell when it was a cold war crossing point, but Sunday it was reverberating to the yells and shrieks of fans.

One television reporter



German team members, (left to right) Markus Babbel, Christian Ziege, Marco Bode and Juergen Klinsmann, celebrate winning the European Championship at Wembley Stadium. Germany beat the Czech Republic 2-1 in extra-time with a 'Golden Goal' from Oliver Bierhoff (Reuters photo)

described the jubilant mood in the city as reminiscent of the night the Berlin Wall came down.

Around 8,000 people watched the game on a huge screen in the centre of Dortmund, home of Germany's league cham-

pions. Czech fans had been hoping for a repeat of Czechoslovakia's 1976 title triumph against West Germany.

Less than an hour before Bierhoff blasted in his winner, Patrik Berger had set the fans in Prague cheering when he put the Czech Republic ahead from the penalty spot.

In front of the huge monument to national hero Jan Hus, the 15-century Protestant reformer who fought against the Catholic Habsburg dynasty, only to be burned at the stake in Germany, the fans chanted "Czechs, Czechs" and "it's there, it's there."

But 15 minutes later, Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus, Prague's Lord Mayor Jan Koukal and all their compatriots let out a collective groan as Bierhoff equalised.

Most of the well-behaved crowd dispersed after the defeat, although a bonfire of beer cups and debris blazed at Hus's feet in the centre of the square.

Bierhoff created soccer history when he scored the first international "golden goal" to lead Germany to a record third

European title.

His sudden death winning goal in the fifth minute of extra time came under new rules and brought the match to an immediate finish, ending the prospect of another penalty shoot-out.

Bierhoff, who replaced Mehmet Scholl after 69 minutes, had been on the pitch for only four minutes when he headed Germany's equaliser in the 73rd minute.

### Czech fan dies in front of TV as team loses

PRAGUE (R) — A Czech soccer fan died of a heart attack in front of his television set Sunday while watching his team lose 2-1 to Germany in the Euro 96 final, the daily Mlada Fronta Dnes reported Monday.

"It was an immediate heart stoppage," the paper quoted a first aid assistant on the scene as saying.

Another Prague fan suffered a heart stroke as well during the game, but survived, the paper reported.

Tens of thousands of fans crowded

Prague old town square to watch the game but dispersed peacefully after the defeat.

Despite the defeat, Czech newspapers were full of praise for the national team. "A big thanks boys" said the tabloid blesk while the daily Pravo lead its front page with the headline: "After a big fight we lost, but we did not fail."

"The close of a championship that no one will forget," read the headline on the sports page of the daily Mlada Fronta Dnes.

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### THE AMMAN MARRIOTT HOTEL WELCOME MARTYN STANDEN, THE NEW GENERAL MANAGER

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Mr. Standen brings with him a vast experience in the hospitality industry, with an initial working experience in Front Office and Food and Beverage in London, and then the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean.

He held various positions in the field of food and beverage, starting with the post of Food and Beverage Manager with Holiday Inns in South Africa from 1981 to 1985. This was followed by the post of Director of Catering and then Director of Food and Beverage at the Riyadh Marriott Hotel between 1985 and 1987.

Mr. Standen moved to Hong Kong in the capacity of Director of Food and Beverage at the Exeelsior Hotel from 1987 to 1989. He rejoined Marriott as Director of Food and Beverage at the JW Marriott Hotel Hong



Kong between 1989 and 1992. Mr. Standen was promoted to Resident Manager of the JW Marriott Hong Kong in 1992 and held that position until his arrival to Jordan.

His achievements include:  
\* Award of Director of Catering, year 1986.  
\* Award of Director of Food and Beverage, year 1990.  
On a personal level, Mr. Standen is married with two children aged 5 and 3, and he is of British nationality.

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## Critics attack Ciller for giving in to Erbakan's Welfare Party

ANKARA (AFP) — Harsh criticism continued to rain on former Turkish Premier Tansu Ciller on Monday for putting women's rights and the "secular state" at risk by giving over power to the pro-Islamic Welfare Party.

Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the Welfare Party, took over as prime minister on Friday. His success in forging a government with Ms. Ciller, who will be deputy prime minister and foreign minister, raised questions over the future of secularism and pro-Western policies on which modern Turkey was founded in 1923.

Mr. Erbakan's new coalition government with Ms. Ciller's True Path Party may not obtain a vote of confidence in parliament, however, as 20 True Path deputies have said they will vote against it.

In a further sign of instability, a suicide bomb attack

claimed by the main Kurdish separatist group, the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK), killed six Turkish soldiers and injured 30 others on Sunday in Tunceli, eastern Turkey.

Six months ago Ms. Ciller refused to form a coalition with Mr. Erbakan, saying his party represented "the greatest danger to the secular state."

Her attitude change has sparked a wave of protest in Turkey, especially from women's groups who said the Welfare Party threatens the rights women have acquired in Turkey since the 1930s. Women's groups have called on True Path deputies to banish Ms. Ciller from the leadership of her party, Bulent Ecevit, head of the Democratic Left Party, called for True Path deputies to deny a vote of confidence to the new government. Mr. Ecevit is opposed to any coalition

with the Welfare Party.

"The parliamentary group of the True Path Party should fulfill its responsibility to prevent Turkey from falling into darkness," Mr. Ecevit said.

Sources said a group of 20 to 30 True Path deputies were preparing a statement denouncing the coalition. Some had already said they would vote against the new government.

One of these deputies, former Istanbul police chief Necdet Menzir, said Ms. Ciller had "destroyed the party" by forming a partnership with the Islamists.

On Monday a seventh deputy, Edip Sadfer Gaydali, resigned from the party to protest the alliance, lowering the coalition majority to nine seats. Several editorial writers in Turkish newspapers also criticised Ms. Ciller for her approach and timing in forming the coalition. They

said the alliance was based on "political immorality" and would always bear the stigma of having been created to "prevent Ciller from appearing before the high court."

The journalists were referring to a parliamentary inquiry instigated in June by the Welfare Party which accused Ms. Ciller of "irregularities and corruption" when she was prime minister between June, 1993 and March, 1996. Coskun Kirca, former foreign minister for Ms. Ciller and a columnist for the daily liberal newspaper Yeni Yuzul, accused her of having "betrayed the secular state."

The Welfare Party now owes its position to Ms. Ciller, he said, "who opted to betray the secular state solely because of her personal anxieties and ambitions."



ISRAELI GIRLS IN JERUSALEM ATTEND PEACE NOW DEMO: Israeli girls shout slogans and hold peace signs as Jewish and Arab Peace Now youths demonstrate opposite the prime minister's offices Monday. The youths called in Hebrew, Arabic and English for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to dismantle settlements and fulfill peace agreements signed by the previous government with the PLO (Reuters photo)

## Al Quds breaks silence on PNA human rights abuses

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — A Palestinian newspaper has decided to break the silence surrounding alleged human rights abuses by Yasser Arafat's self-rule authority and publish regular complaints from its victims.

Al Quds newspaper, based in East Jerusalem, has begun a daily slot called "citizens' complaints" on its front page every day.

On Monday it told the story of a doctor and his wife who were detained for 14 days in Bethlehem on the West Bank without being brought before

a court. The doctor said he was beaten, tortured and kept in solitary confinement, and had written a letter to Mr. Arafat condemning his police force. On Sunday Al Quds published a complaint from two Bethlehem inhabitants, who said they were detained illegally for a month after refusing to sell some land to a Palestinian Authority official.

The Palestinian press has generally kept quiet about such abuses since the launch of self-rule in the Gaza Strip and West Bank in May 1994.

International human rights organisations have repeatedly criticised the self-rule authority's use of repression and intimidation to muzzle the press. Newspapers have been temporarily shut down and their editors detained after venturing any criticism of Mr. Arafat's government.

Al Quds, which does not identify the people whose complaints it carries, explained that it wanted to provoke official reaction. "We want to draw the attention of the legislative council and the authority to get a response in concrete cases," it said.



'Moony' preacher expelled from Russia

MOSCOW (AFP) — A Japanese missionary of the "Moonies" religious sect was expelled Monday from Russia after repeatedly breaking laws requiring a valid passport and visa, the Interfax News Agency reported. Kenjiro Aoki, a preacher with the Unification Church, was banished from the central Russian town of Kazan in Tatarstan after pleading guilty to charges of violating Russia's passport code, the news agency said.

The ejection comes just days after Russia's new Kremlin strongman Alexander Lebed sounded off against the proliferation of religious sects in Russia, which he said would have to be driven out of the country. Kazan, situated 900 kilometres east of Moscow, is the capital of Tatarstan, a predominantly Muslim autonomous republic in central Russia.

## Cancer patient sues doctors for still being alive

LONDON (AFP) — Cancer patient Cyril Smith is suing doctors who told him three years ago that he had only three months to live because he has not died yet, the Daily Telegraph reported Monday.

Mr. Smith, 59, is claiming the earnings he said he lost since giving up his job as a painter and decorator on being told of his fate by doctors at a Portsmouth hospital, southern England. At the time he was making £200 (\$300) a week, he said.

## Nearly half in U.S. think government hides UFO info

NEW YORK (R) — Nearly half of all Americans think the government is hiding proof of UFOs from the public, according to a poll released by Newsweek magazine Sunday. The poll found that while 48 per cent of those interviewed believed that the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) people report seeing are real, 51 per cent thought there was a natural scientific explanation for them. Only 12 per cent said they had seen objects they thought were UFOs. But 49 per cent thought the government was hiding information on the subject. Only 20 per cent believed UFOs were alien ships or alien life forms. The poll found that belief in the paranormal decreased slightly with age. Forty-three per cent of 18-29 year-olds considered themselves believers compared with 39 per cent of 30-49 year-olds and 35 per cent of 50-64 year-olds. Of those over 65 years old, 37 per cent were believers. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus four for the total sample of 769 adults.

## Parents held over child sex network

PALERMO, Italy (AFP) — Police broke up a child sex network here and arrested seven people, including parents, judicial sources said Monday. They said 54 children aged between four and 15 had been forced to work as prostitutes. Ten children were taken to hospital. Seven people were held on charges of sexual violence against children and the production of pornographic material, including parents of some of the children involved. Investigators seized pornographic material including videos in a raid in the poor albergheria area of Palermo after a child support organisation received an anonymous telephone call. One mother said she had forced her five-year-old daughter into prostitution to repay a money-lender.

## Nationalist rivals sweep board in first post-war Bosnian poll

MOSTAR, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AFP) — Nationalist parties swept the board in local polls in Mostar, confirming the split between Muslims and Croats in this divided city, according to preliminary unofficial results released Monday.

Mostar, which was torn in two by bitter Muslim-Croat fighting three years ago, voted back in the two leading nationalist parties in polls Sunday — Bosnia's first taste of balloting since war broke out in the republic in 1992 — the unofficial figures showed.

EU officials who have run Mostar since 1994 had hoped the elections would serve to reunite the divided Bosnian city.

Figures announced by the Electoral Commission Monday showed that the list for a united Mostar, headed by the ruling Muslim Democratic Action Party (SDA) and the list of the Croatian Democratic Union

(HSD), were taking around 90 per cent of the vote between them.

A distant third place went to an anti-nationalist list, the United Democrats, headed by a Croat, Jole Musa, the figures suggested.

The Bosnian Croat News Agency, Habena, said the list topped by the SDA had won 28,505 votes, followed by the HDZ list on 26,760 votes, or all but 4.65 per cent of votes cast.

These figures were not confirmed independently.

Observers said it was not clear how the results would be reflected in the seats for the city council.

The elections "are just to give a democratic seal of approval to the institutions the European Union has set up," one observer told AFP, before first results were announced.

The elections were for a single city council — which will elect a mayor — and six city district authorities.

## Sharaa returns to Iran to mediate in crisis with Bahrain

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al-Sharaa travelled to Tehran Monday for the second time in two days to attempt to mediate between Iran and Bahrain, officials said.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad asked Mr. Sharaa to "continue his mission" which took him to Tehran Saturday and Manama Sunday, presidential spokesman Jibril Kuriyeh said.

Mr. Sharaa, who will then make a return visit to Bahrain, will take messages from Mr. Assad to the two countries' leaders.

Iran has been accused by Bahrain of trying to topple the government in Manama and of being behind the violence which has rocked the Gulf archipelago since December 1994, claiming 22 lives. Tehran fiercely denies the accusations.

In Tehran Saturday, Mr. Sharaa told newspapers that Syria, which has good ties with Iran, was using its good offices to reduce tension and "misunderstand-

ings" between Tehran and Manama, and was optimistic of success.

Arab diplomats in Tehran said Monday: "the return of Sharaa seems to indicate progress in Syrian mediation," adding that Iran welcomed the Syrian efforts.

However, the Bahraini government renewed its call for Iran to stop meddling in its affairs on Monday.

"Iran is interfering in our internal affairs and as soon as it stops doing that and changes its policy, there will no longer be a need for mediation," said Information Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Al Mutawa.

Mr. Mutawa added however that Bahrain appreciated "the efforts undertaken by Syria to convince Iran to stop meddling in our affairs."

"We thank Syria and wish it success, and hope at the same time that Iran will respond favourably" to its efforts, he said.

## Police try to crack down on Palestinians in Israel illegally

MACCABIM, Israel (AP) — More than 100 police in patrol cars and jeeps, on horseback and in helicopters conducted a massive sweep Monday of Palestinian workers who cross illegally into Israel.

But the early morning operation fell short — netting just 100 workers and about 20 Israeli employers — after the employers were apparently tipped off in advance.

About 25,000 Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip have

permits to work in Israel — down from 60,000 before the territories were sealed off four months ago following a series of deadly suicide bombings inside Israel. More than 100,000 worked in Israel before the government began imposing restrictions two years ago.

Gideon Ezra, former deputy head of Israel's Shin Bet intelligence service and a Likud member of parliament, called Monday for the closure to be lifted immediately, saying it does

not prevent attacks and keeps Palestinians from making a living.

Replacing the Palestinians barred by the closure are 200,000 foreign workers from countries such as Romania, Thailand and the Philippines, according to police and interior ministry estimates. Almost half of those workers are in the country illegally.

About 1,000 foreign workers were arrested last year for illegally residing in Israel.

Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the government's chief adviser on Palestinian affairs, said an estimated 25,000 Palestinians also are believed to work in Israel illegally.

Army checkpoints are set up on major roads to stop Palestinians from entering Israel without permits, but side roads are often open, and many Palestinians cross into Israel from West Bank villages through fields and forests.

Monday's police raid focused on several new

neighbourhoods under construction on the edge of the West Bank between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Israeli building contractors are believed to employ thousands of Palestinian workers there without permits.

The operation was targeted at the employers, many of whom drive workers into Israel in their own cars, authorities said. But the contractors had apparently been tipped off, and only a few showed up Monday.

## Algerian fundamentalists kill 10

ALGIERS (AFP) — Two leaders of the Algerian National Association for Children of the Mujahedeen (ONEM), veterans of the independence war against France, have been murdered, the private daily Al Khabar said Monday.

Rabah Ayache and Rachid Boukha were assassinated on Friday as they were leaving one of their homes in the southeastern Algiers suburb of Semmar, the paper stated, without giving further details.

Officials have not confirmed the report.

The ONEM was founded by the National Organisation of the Mujahedeen, which is considered to be a significant political force in Algeria. Former resistance fighters have been a primary target of Islamic fundamentalists at war with the regime, and more than 1,000 have lost their lives.

Armed gangs on Sunday also killed two people in Algiers and

eight others at Bouira in the east of the country, according to the Arabic daily Al Hayat, based in London.

Eight members of the family of a lawyer had their throats cut in Bouira, 120 kilometres east of the capital, Al Hayat added.

Also Sunday, the 89-year-old head of the Muslim community in Algeria, Sheikh Ahmed Sahnoun, was shot and wounded in the head by two armed men as he was coming out of the Mosque of El Arkam de Birmandreiss, where he is the spiritual leader.

He was taken to the military hospital in Ain Naadja, but his life was not in danger, according to an official statement.

Islamic fundamentalists have been at war with the Algerian authorities since the cancellation by the military in January 1992 of the second round of general elections they were poised to win.

Officials on Monday

announced that a further round of meetings between the government and opposition political parties would take place as of July 15.

Following a series of talks, President Liamine Zeroual in May sent opposition parties proposals for elections, as well as a constitutional referendum.

Mr. Zeroual's office declared Monday that 58 per cent of those asked were in favour of talks, while five per cent opposed the idea, six per cent said they had reservations and 31 per cent had "no view". But while 67 per cent of respondents favoured a revision of the constitution and 57 per cent were ready for changes in legislation regarding political parties, several leading opposition parties, including the Socialist Forces Front (FFS), rejected the president's memorandum or expressed reservations about it, calling for parliamentary elections to be held as a priority.

## Egypt to raise issue of U.S. objectivity in peace talks

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak will raise the question of whether the United States is tilting towards Israel in the Middle East peace talks when he visits Washington in late July, Egypt's foreign minister says.

Mr. Mubarak expects to discuss the American role as a mediator in the talks when he sees U.S. President Bill Clinton, Foreign Minister Amr Musa said in an interview published Monday in the opposition Al Arabi newspaper.

"The American role in the peace process is important and it is based on the principle that Washington should be an objective mediator," Mr. Musa was quoted as saying. Mr. Musa's comments underline the sentiment in Egypt and the Arab World that the United States dropped its objectivity in sup-

porting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's call for resuming peace talks without "pre-conditions." The Arabs feel the newly elected Israeli leader has set his own pre-conditions that violate the land-for-peace principle for the negotiations accepted at the Madrid conference on the Middle East in 1991. Mr. Netanyahu's government has ruled out a Palestinian state and the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland. He has also said he will not cede the Golan Heights to Syria, nor discuss the future of East Jerusalem. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher gave his backing to Mr. Netanyahu's "pre-conditions" comment in Israel last week, raising Arab fears that the Clinton administration was backing down from its support of the land-for-peace formula.

Volume 21 Number 6263

## King, Arafat meet

PALESTINE (AFP) — King Hussein of Jordan met Yasser Arafat on Sunday in Amman, the Jordanian capital, to discuss the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians.

The two leaders met for the first time since Arafat's return from exile in 1994. The meeting was held in a private setting, with only a few aides present.

Arafat, who has been in Jordan since his return, said the meeting was "very fruitful" and that he and the king discussed the current situation in the Middle East and the role of Jordan in the peace process.

The king, who has been a strong supporter of the Palestinian cause, said he was pleased to see Arafat back in the region and that he was committed to supporting the peace process.

The meeting was seen as a significant step in the relationship between the two leaders and a sign of Jordan's continued support for the Palestinian people.

## Israf not

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that he would not accept a peace plan that would require Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Netanyahu, who has been in office since 1996, said the plan was "not a peace plan" and that it would "destroy the Jewish state."

He said that Israel had made significant concessions in the peace process and that it was time for the Palestinians to make similar concessions.

Netanyahu's statement was seen as a rejection of the Oslo Accords, which require Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in exchange for Palestinian recognition of Israel as a Jewish state.

The statement was also seen as a warning to the international community that Israel would not accept a peace plan that would require it to give up its right to self-defence.

## Rifk plan

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AFP) — Saudi Secretary of State Saud bin Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud said on Sunday that he would not accept a peace plan that would require Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Secretary Al Saud said the plan was "not a peace plan" and that it would "destroy the Jewish state."

He said that Saudi Arabia had made significant concessions in the peace process and that it was time for the Palestinians to make similar concessions.

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The statement was also seen as a warning to the international community that Saudi Arabia would not accept a peace plan that would require it to give up its right to self-defence.